

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS, CANBERRA,
AUSTRALIA.

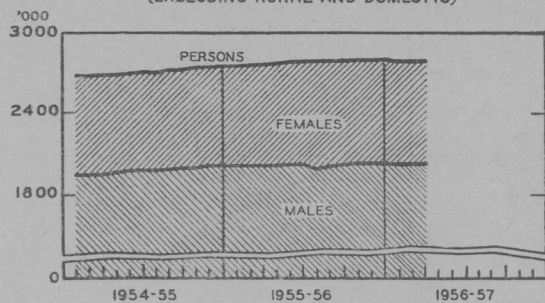
MONTHLY REVIEW OF BUSINESS STATISTICS

OCTOBER, 1956.

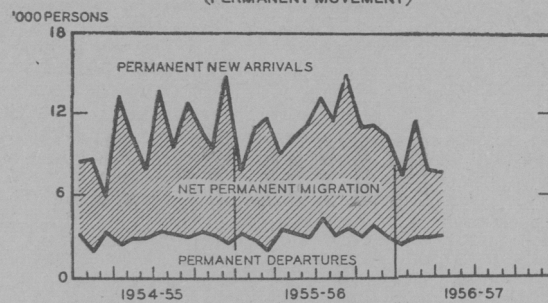
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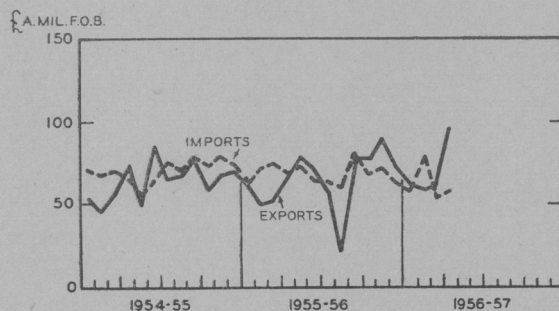
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT
(EXCLUDING RURAL AND DOMESTIC)



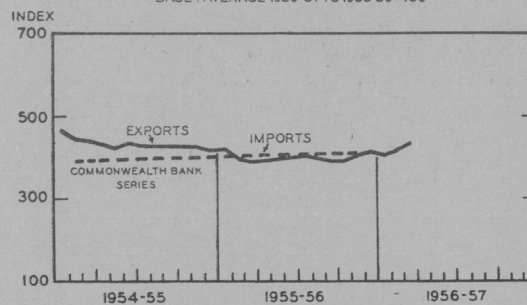
OVERSEA MIGRATION
(PERMANENT MOVEMENT)



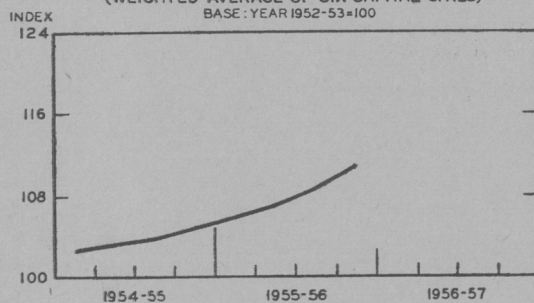
OVERSEA TRADE



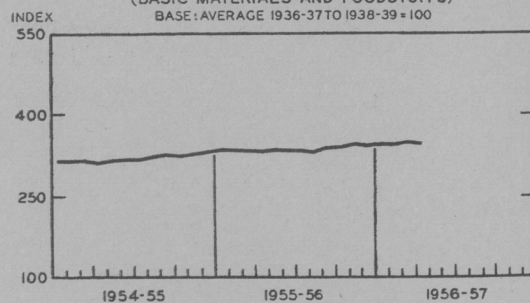
IMPORT AND EXPORT PRICE INDEXES
BASE: AVERAGE 1936-37 TO 1938-39 = 100



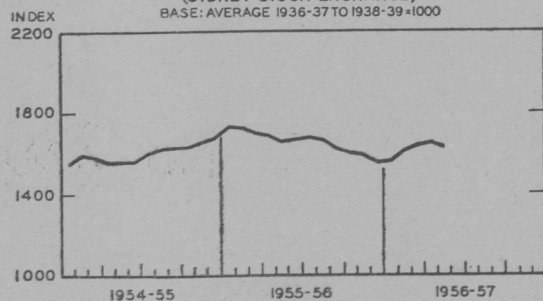
INTERIM RETAIL PRICE INDEX
(WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX CAPITAL CITIES)
BASE: YEAR 1952-53 = 100



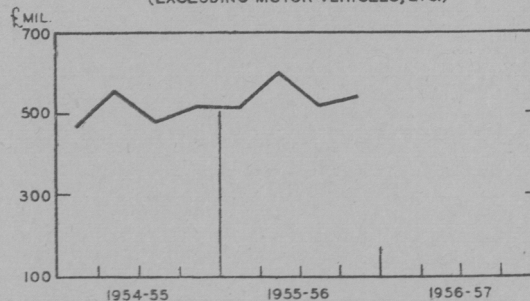
WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX
(BASIC MATERIALS AND FOODSTUFFS)
BASE: AVERAGE 1936-37 TO 1938-39 = 100



ORDINARY SHARE PRICE INDEX
(SYDNEY STOCK EXCHANGE)
BASE: AVERAGE 1936-37 TO 1938-39 = 1000



RETAIL SALES
(EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES, ETC.)



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The following symbols, where shown in columns of figures, mean—

n.a.	Not available.
.	Nil or less than half the final digit shown, or not applicable.
p	Preliminary—figure or series subject to revision.
r	Figure or series revised.
—	Break in continuity of series (where drawn across a column between two consecutive figures).

A blank space in a column of figures means that the figure concerned is not yet available.

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INDICATORS OF BUSINESS ACTIVITY.

This and the following page summarize the trend of business activity shown by certain of the major indicators contained in various tables herein :—

Period.	Total Civil Employment. —End of Month (Excluding Rural and Household Domestic). (a)			Average Weekly Wage Earnings (b) Index (Base : 1945-46= 1,000).	Internal Trade.		Oversea Trade (Merchandise only—Values f.o.b. port of Shipment).		Building Permits(e) Six Capital Cities and Suburbs.	New Houses Com- menced.(f)
	Males.	Females.	Total.		Whole- sale.(c)	Retail.(d)	Imports.	Exports.		
Monthly Average—	'000.	'000.	'000.		£m.	£m.	£m.	£m.	£'000.	No.
1932-33	(g)992	(g)341	(g)1,333	n.a.	29.1	n.a.	5.5	8.2	565	n.a.
1936-37	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	37.2	n.a.	8.6	12.3	1,986	n.a.
1937-38	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	40.5	n.a.	10.6	11.7	2,307	n.a.
1938-39	(h)1,293	(h)437	(h)1,730	n.a.	39.8	n.a.	9.4	10.1	2,353	n.a.
1949-50	1,810	675	2,485	1,451	110.2	276.4	44.7	51.0	7,129	(i) 16,726
1950-51	1,882	707	2,589	1,742	140.5	342.7	61.8	81.6	10,426	(i) 20,686
1951-52	1,915	709	2,624	2,145	162.1	404.0	87.5	55.4	9,700	20,001
1952-53	1,876	670	2,546	2,350	158.1	425.8	42.5	70.7	10,045	16,115
1953-54	1,914	695	2,609	2,462	179.5	460.2	56.5	67.7	12,356	18,811
1954-55	1,971	727	2,698	2,572	205.5	503.8	70.1	63.2	17,920	18,870
1955-56	2,012	753	2,765	2,743	221.0	540.4	68.2	64.4	18,904	17,725
Monthly Total—										
1954-55—										
January	1,969	724	2,693	2,589	164.3	478.4	76.0	63.6	13,976	17,789
February	1,977	733	2,710		197.1		69.8	67.3	17,399	
March	1,986	738	2,724	2,652	224.6	512.1	77.6	77.0	18,907	18,762
April	1,991	736	2,727		200.8		73.2	57.0	17,128	
May	1,996	737	2,733		225.6		78.9	66.8	18,744	
June	2,001	738	2,739		225.4		74.7	69.0	21,308	
1955-56—										
July	1,996	739	2,735	2,689	207.0	514.1	p 61.5	p 60.9	18,238	19,491
August	2,000	741	2,741		230.5		71.2	48.7	22,578	
September	2,003	744	2,747	2,731	229.8	596.2	74.9	51.4	19,865	17,970
October	2,002	748	2,750		224.7		68.1	65.6	18,197	
November	2,012	756	2,768	2,749	243.5	511.7	73.4	77.9	19,708	17,139
December	2,013	758	2,771		222.2		r63.2	72.4	16,230	
January	(j) 1,991	752	(j) 2,743	2,801	178.8	539.5	(j) 63.4	(j) 55.4	14,674	16,298
February	2,019	759	2,778		208.1		(j) 59.1	r(j) 20.1	18,732	
March	2,021	762	2,783	2,863	234.1	r211.0	(j) 80.5	(j) 77.5	20,332	p16,415
April	2,026	760	2,786		217.8		r68.0	r(j) 78.0	17,766	
May	2,028	761	2,789	2,863	235.4	p233.5	(j) 90.0	(j) 90.0	22,382	
June	2,026	759	2,785		r223.7		63.4	(j) 72.9	18,143	
1956-57—										
July	2,022	758	2,780	2,863	r211.0	p233.5	57.3	61.0	18,814	p16,415
August	2,020	756	2,776		r211.0		78.8	r57.8	17,774	
September	2,020	757	2,777	2,863	r211.0	p233.5	53.6	60.8	15,616	p16,415
October					r211.0		57.1	96.0		

(a) Excludes Defence Forces at home or abroad, National Service Trainees in camp and, in 1932-33, Government "relief" workers. Figures from 1947-48 subject to revision. (b) Seasonally adjusted. Average earnings per employed male unit. Male units represent total male employment plus a proportion of female employment based on the approximate ratio of female to male earnings. (c) Net sales recorded under Sales Tax Acts. (d) Quarterly average sales for years and quarterly total sales. Excludes Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory. Excludes Motor Vehicles, Parts, Petrol, etc. (e) All building operations for which permits granted by local government authorities. Excludes Government buildings (see note (a) page 33). (f) Includes owner-built houses. Quarterly averages for years, and quarterly totals. From September Quarter 1954, includes Northern Territory. (g) June, 1933; obtained from Census. (h) July, 1939; obtained from National Register. (i) Partly estimated. (j) Affected by industrial disputes.

For meaning of symbols n.a., p, r, —, see page 1.

INDICATORS OF BUSINESS ACTIVITY—continued.

Period.	Production of Black Coal.	Total Electricity Generated.	Production of Ingot Steel.	New Motor Vehicles Registered (a) (Excluding Defence Service Vehicles).		Government Railways : Gross Revenue.	P.M.G.'s Department Cash Receipts.	Private Trading Banks. (b)		Bank Debits to Customers' Accounts (Weekly Averages).
				Motor Cars.	Commercial Vehicles.			Deposits.	Advances.	
Monthly Average—	'000 tons.	Million kWh	'000 tons.	'000.	'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£m.	£m.	£m.
1932-33 ..	732	225	32.7	1.0	0.3	3,017	1,053	269.9	231.0	n.a.
1936-37 ..	977	331	90.0	4.0	2.0	3,517	1,318	297.6	262.5	n.a.
1937-38 ..	990	363	97.2	4.6	2.3	3,705	1,396	314.8	274.4	n.a.
1938-39 ..	1,051	391	97.5	4.5	2.1	3,662	1,447	317.7	288.1	n.a.
1948-49 ..	1,237	754	98.2	5.5	3.1	7,165	2,776	776.4	368.6	212.8
1949-50 ..	1,243	792	101.5	9.6	4.8	7,683	3,196	910.1	403.9	271.1
1950-51 ..	1,368	875	120.3	10.6	6.5	8,804	3,732	1,144.2	479.3	372.9
1951-52 ..	1,598	941	126.8	10.4	6.1	11,626	4,948	1,201.7	621.4	402.4
1952-53 ..	1,545	1,024	150.1	7.7	4.4	12,903	5,371	1,162.4	638.1	389.3
1953-54 ..	1,619	1,142	176.4	10.4	4.8	14,155	5,650	1,275.5	658.5	446.5
1954-55 ..	p1,613	p1,275	p184.1	13.9	5.6	14,521	6,069	1,310.7	776.8	491.6
1955-56 ..	p1,586	p1,400	p194.9	13.7	5.8	14,787	6,612	1,295.4	804.4	521.4
Monthly Total—										
1954-55—	p	p	p			(c)				
October ..	1,728	1,243	200.9	13.6	5.8	15,304	5,929	1,285.9	780.1	497.6
November ..	1,782	1,212	189.5	13.6	6.2	15,856	6,397	1,299.3	786.2	483.4
December ..	1,479	1,189	189.2	13.4	5.7	15,786	7,038	1,317.7	785.7	511.0
January ..	906	1,162	173.6	8.1	3.8	13,082	5,160	1,334.8	769.8	463.7
February ..	1,566	1,163	156.3	12.7	4.8	12,947	5,927	1,356.2	772.9	504.9
March ..	1,641	1,315	182.2	15.8	5.9	13,725	6,619	1,364.3	775.9	501.9
April ..	1,485	1,243	158.1	13.5	4.9	13,704	5,769	1,345.3	795.8	485.1
May ..	1,712	1,396	190.0	16.1	6.2	14,762	6,231	1,328.7	811.4	532.1
June ..	1,712	1,441	178.6	16.5	6.2	14,134	6,637	1,307.2	817.7	521.9
1955-56—										
July ..	1,779	1,492	195.8	15.2	6.0	14,215	5,921	1,280.8	829.9	520.7
August ..	1,908	1,471	197.7	16.8	6.2	15,418	6,509	1,264.2	820.4	479.3
September ..	1,801	1,376	189.1	16.0	6.6	15,514	6,493	1,257.7	823.1	493.3
October ..	1,681	1,369	194.2	15.0	6.6	15,259	6,766	1,277.1	831.4	519.2
November ..	1,737	1,358	192.2	14.9	6.0	15,535	6,437	1,295.8	823.3	551.4
December ..	1,346	1,301	192.7	14.4	5.9	14,275	7,142	1,321.5	814.5	563.1
January ..	843	1,263	197.5	9.9	4.6	13,572	6,097	1,331.8	784.2	489.8
February ..	1,447	1,300	192.7	12.3	5.3	13,541	6,285	1,331.9	773.7	501.5
March ..	1,479	1,389	202.3	14.2	5.6	14,812	6,803	1,334.4	776.2	526.9
April ..	1,547	1,356	187.6	11.0	5.0	14,172	6,116	1,321.5	786.8	524.0
May ..	1,774	1,545	218.2	12.2	6.2	15,571	7,352	1,277.8	798.4	561.4
June ..	1,691	1,568	217.0	11.7	5.3	15,564	7,422	1,260.4	793.9	525.3
1956-57—										
July ..		1,655	230.3	11.8	5.4		6,743	1,243.4	797.7	541.7
August ..		1,652	206.6	13.3	5.3		6,716	1,234.4	787.0	482.1
September ..			228.6	12.4	4.6		6,455	1,248.5	778.5	526.1
October ..			226.5	13.7	5.3		8,110	1,281.5	780.2	562.2

(a) Excludes Northern Territory prior to July, 1953; also extra-metropolitan area of Western Australia prior to 1938-39.
 (b) Until December, 1946, averages of deposits and advances on Mondays in period; thereafter on Wednesdays.
 (c) Calculated from monthly returns of revenue and expenditure and not strictly comparable with annual figures above as monthly details exclude certain items of revenue and expenditure which are only allocated on an annual basis.

For meaning of symbols, n.a., p., —, see page 1.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS : AUSTRALIA.

Period.	Marriages.	Births.	Deaths.	Natural Increase.(a)	Net Oversea Migration.(b)	Total Increase.(c)	Population at end of Period.
Quarterly Average—							
1936-37	14,627	29,634	16,129	13,505	496	(d) 14,291	6,835,536
1937-38	15,529	29,924	16,170	13,754	1,676	(d) 15,751	6,898,541
1938-39	15,279	30,636	17,023	13,613	3,339	(d) 17,303	6,967,754
1949-50	18,558	47,048	19,001	28,047	40,387	(d) 67,657	8,178,696
1950-51	19,211	48,114	19,896	28,218	33,244	(d) 60,770	8,421,775
1951-52	18,896	49,228	20,661	28,567	25,720	(d) 53,671	8,636,458
1952-53	17,870	50,739	20,023	30,716	14,516	(d) 44,726	8,815,362
1953-54	17,827	50,400	20,390	30,010	13,263	(d) 42,792	e 8,986,530
1954-55	17,848	51,213	20,541	30,672	22,868	53,540	9,200,691
1955-56	18,169	52,719	20,712	32,007	24,710	56,717	9,427,558
Quarterly Total—							
1952-53—							
June Qtr. ..	18,406	49,489	19,532	29,957	3,730	(d) 33,310	8,815,362
1953-54—							
September ..	15,210	50,517	23,289	27,228	10,335	(d) 37,149	8,852,511
December ..	19,631	50,760	20,225	30,535	20,200	(d) 50,175	8,902,686
March ..	17,868	49,709	17,367	32,342	12,175	(d) 44,020	8,946,706
June ..	18,600	50,613	20,677	29,936	10,340	(d) 39,824	e 8,986,530
1954-55—							
September ..	15,097	50,772	24,670	26,102	16,809	42,911	9,029,441
December ..	19,664	51,162	19,091	32,071	28,883	60,954	9,090,395
March ..	17,705	51,318	17,680	33,638	25,101	58,739	9,149,134
June ..	18,924	51,600	20,723	30,877	20,680	51,557	9,200,691
1955-56—							
September ..	15,449	53,714	24,209	29,505	25,853	55,358	9,256,049
December ..	20,094	51,045	19,424	31,621	25,621	57,242	9,313,291
March ..	18,680	52,614	18,073	34,541	29,421	63,962	9,377,253
June ..	18,453	53,502	21,140	32,362	17,943	50,305	9,427,558

(a) Excess of births over deaths. (b) Excess of arrivals over departures. (c) Includes natural increase and net overseas migration. (d) Includes adjustments for deaths of defence personnel between September, 1939 and June, 1947 and adjustments of population between July, 1933 and June, 1954, on the basis of Census results. (e) Census 30th June, 1954.

POPULATION: STATES.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Northern Territory.	Australian Capital Territory.	Australia.
30th June—									
1939 ..	2,748,393	1,878,480	1,018,007	596,563	470,044	237,419	6,281	12,567	6,967,754
1948 ..	3,015,763	2,092,320	1,131,200	661,153	515,074	261,206	12,254	19,791	7,708,761
1949 ..	3,092,621	2,142,986	1,159,124	679,305	532,191	267,062	13,391	21,386	7,908,066
1950 ..	3,193,372	2,208,078	1,196,185	709,547	557,096	275,902	14,692	23,824	8,178,696
1951 ..	3,278,032	2,276,575	1,227,701	732,430	580,343	286,193	15,609	24,892	8,421,775
1952 ..	3,339,455	2,344,491	1,259,478	755,053	599,858	296,299	15,464	26,360	8,636,458
1953 ..	3,383,792	2,395,254	1,291,410	775,781	620,547	304,080	15,853	28,645	8,815,362
1954 (a) ..	3,423,529	2,452,341	1,318,259	797,094	639,771	308,752	16,469	30,315	8,986,530
1955 ..	3,490,331	2,523,018	1,344,572	819,549	658,538	314,679	17,580	32,424	9,200,691
1956 ..	3,553,432	2,605,088	1,370,697	848,526	677,389	319,648	18,297	34,481	9,427,558

(a) Census—30th June, 1954.

OVERSEA MIGRATION.

Permanent migration refers to persons, other than Australian troops, intending residence for one year or longer—in Australia in the case of arrivals, and abroad in the case of departures. Temporary migration refers to persons intending residence for shorter periods, together with Australian troops from July, 1947, onwards, irrespective of length of intended residence.

Period.	Temporary.				Permanent.		
	Australian Residents.		Visitors from Overseas.		Arrivals.	Australian Residents Departing.	Excess of Arrivals.
	Arriving.	Departing.	Arriving.	Departing.			
Monthly Average—							
1936-37	1,910	1,937	2,294	2,297	1,148	953	195
1937-38	2,127	2,060	2,617	2,678	1,478	925	553
1938-39	2,145	1,966	2,649	2,742	2,081	1,055	1,026
1949-50	2,336	2,500	3,470	3,644	15,407	1,608	13,799
1950-51	2,812	2,617	3,594	3,753	12,774	1,729	11,045
1951-52	3,251	3,233	3,895	4,085	10,872	2,126	8,746
1952-53	3,351	3,427	3,838	4,198	7,991	2,717	5,274
1953-54	3,648	3,556	3,953	3,906	7,206	2,924	4,282
1954-55	4,107	4,013	4,277	4,220	10,348	2,877	7,471
1955-56	4,719	4,469	4,608	4,515	11,052	3,159	7,893
Monthly Total—							
1954-55—							
September	4,675	2,654	3,934	3,954	5,759	3,223	2,536
October	4,564	2,518	4,507	3,985	13,197	2,375	10,822
November	5,643	2,805	4,286	4,515	10,115	2,869	7,246
December	4,890	5,014	5,383	4,656	7,919	2,884	5,035
January	5,242	3,883	5,113	5,055	13,256	3,338	9,918
February	4,299	5,067	4,751	4,502	9,380	3,101	6,279
March	3,932	5,636	4,704	4,801	12,711	2,904	9,807
April	3,622	6,249	4,761	4,653	10,718	3,308	7,410
May	3,675	5,760	4,353	4,699	9,408	3,030	6,378
June	3,228	3,405	3,441	3,557	14,664	2,529	12,135
1955-56—							
July	3,050	3,143	3,089	3,557	7,885	3,130	4,755
August	3,842	2,859	4,025	3,521	10,926	2,681	8,245
September	4,781	2,714	4,021	3,847	11,675	1,989	9,686
October	6,313	4,558	5,078	4,501	8,868	3,451	5,417
November	5,735	3,530	4,611	4,876	10,083	3,224	6,859
December	5,158	5,376	5,618	4,755	11,221	2,793	8,428
January	6,201	4,828	5,703	5,468	13,328	4,227	9,101
February	4,549	4,936	5,294	4,826	11,436	3,004	8,432
March	4,942	6,316	5,430	5,109	14,843	3,591	11,252
April	4,431	5,500	4,252	4,863	10,913	2,983	7,930
May	3,937	6,315	4,771	4,923	11,057	3,844	7,213
June	3,687	3,559	3,405	3,929	10,393	2,987	7,406
1956-57—							
July	2,964	2,909	3,444	3,371	7,551	2,425	5,126
August	4,899	3,167	4,068	4,000	11,353	2,858	8,495
September	5,634	2,568	4,516	3,703	7,917	2,899	5,018

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN EMPLOYMENT : AUSTRALIA.(a)

('000.)

Month.	Total Civil Employment. (Excluding Rural and Household Domestic.)			Total Employment in Main Industrial Groups.						
	Governmental Authorities.(b)	Private Employers.	Total.	Mining and Quarrying.	Factories.(c)	Building and Construction.	Transport and Communication.	Retail Trade.	Other Commerce and Finance.	Professional and Personal Services.(d)
MALES.										
1939—July ..	349.8	943.3	1,293.1	52.2	391.5	149.7	185.9	259.7		133.6
1954—June ..	581.4	1,367.0	1,948.4	58.7	696.1	205.7	300.1	128.4	198.3	176.6
1955—June ..	599.1	1,401.4	2,000.5	58.3	714.5	211.8	308.7	129.2	207.1	182.1
1956—June ..	604.8	1,421.1	2,025.9	57.3	722.2	214.6	310.4	129.9	212.7	187.2
1955—June ..	599.1	1,401.4	2,000.5	58.3	714.5	211.8	308.7	129.2	207.1	182.1
July(e) ..	596.1	1,399.9	1,996.0	58.3	712.2	212.1	308.9	128.8	205.5	181.6
August ..	598.3	1,401.3	1,999.6	58.2	716.2	210.1	309.2	128.8	206.3	182.1
September..	597.5	1,405.6	2,003.1	58.2	717.4	210.4	308.6	128.9	208.2	182.2
1956—June ..	604.8	1,421.1	2,025.9	57.3	722.2	214.6	310.4	129.9	212.7	187.2
July ..	605.7	1,416.2	2,021.9	57.2	719.9	214.0	311.0	129.5	211.0	187.6
August ..	605.7	1,414.3	2,020.0	57.5	718.2	212.9	312.0	129.0	211.3	187.7
September..	604.0	1,416.1	2,020.1	57.5	718.1	211.8	311.6	128.7	212.9	188.4
FEMALES.										
1939—July ..	55.2	381.9	437.1	0.3	148.2	1.2	12.6	114.9		129.0
1954—June ..	114.5	593.0	707.5	1.0	219.8	4.7	36.5	115.3	77.0	218.7
1955—June ..	122.8	615.7	738.5	1.1	225.3	4.9	38.4	121.6	83.1	228.1
1956—June ..	129.8	629.1	758.9	1.2	228.3	5.1	40.1	122.9	88.1	236.5
1955—June ..	122.8	615.7	738.5	1.1	225.3	4.9	38.4	121.6	83.1	228.1
July ..	123.6	615.1	738.7	1.1	224.4	4.9	38.6	121.7	83.3	228.2
August ..	124.2	616.7	740.9	1.1	225.6	4.9	38.6	121.3	83.8	229.3
September..	123.7	620.2	743.9	1.1	226.9	4.9	38.6	122.1	84.2	230.0
1956—June ..	129.8	629.1	758.9	1.2	228.3	5.1	40.1	122.9	88.1	236.5
July ..	130.8	626.8	757.6	1.2	226.7	5.1	40.2	122.4	87.8	236.9
August ..	130.6	625.7	756.3	1.2	226.3	5.1	40.1	121.0	87.9	237.4
September..	129.9	627.1	757.0	1.2	227.2	5.1	40.0	121.1	87.7	237.7
PERSONS.										
1939—July ..	405.0	1,325.2	1,730.2	52.5	539.7	150.9	198.5	374.6		262.6
1954—June ..	695.9	1,960.0	2,655.9	59.7	915.9	210.4	336.6	243.7	275.3	395.3
1955—June ..	721.9	2,017.1	2,739.0	59.4	939.8	216.7	347.1	250.8	290.2	410.2
1956—June ..	734.6	2,050.2	2,784.8	58.5	950.5	219.7	350.5	252.8	300.8	423.7
1955—June ..	721.9	2,017.1	2,739.0	59.4	939.8	216.7	347.1	250.8	290.2	410.2
July(e) ..	719.7	2,015.0	2,734.7	59.4	936.6	217.0	347.5	250.5	288.8	409.8
August ..	722.5	2,018.0	2,740.5	59.3	941.8	215.0	347.8	250.1	290.1	411.4
September..	721.2	2,025.8	2,747.0	59.3	944.3	215.3	347.2	251.0	292.4	412.2
1956—June ..	734.6	2,050.2	2,784.8	58.5	950.5	219.7	350.5	252.8	300.8	423.7
July ..	736.5	2,043.0	2,779.5	58.4	946.6	219.1	351.2	251.9	298.8	424.5
August ..	736.3	2,040.0	2,776.3	58.7	944.5	218.0	352.1	250.0	299.2	425.1
September..	733.9	2,043.2	2,777.1	58.7	945.3	216.9	351.6	249.8	300.6	426.1

(a) Excludes Defence Forces, at home or abroad, and National Service Trainees in camp. Estimated total employment is based on Pay-roll Tax returns and records of Government employment. Figures from June, 1954, subject to revision. (b) Includes all employees of Australian Government authorities (Commonwealth, State and Local) on services such as railways, tramways, banks, post office, air transport, education, broadcasting, police, public works, factories and munitions establishments, migrant hostels, &c., as well as administrative employees within Australia. (c) Pay-roll series subject to revision. (d) Includes Education, Health, Hotels and Restaurants, other Professional and Personal Services (except female private domestic). (e) Affected by industrial disputes.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN EMPLOYMENT : STATES.(a)

('000.)

Month.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Northern Territory.	Australian Capital Territory.	Australia.
MALES.									
1939—July ..	529.9	357.5	172.8	106.7	82.9	37.4	2.1	3.8	1,293.1
1954—June ..	758.1	539.7	263.7	176.0	135.0	62.8	4.9	8.2	1,948.4
1955—June ..	779.2	556.7	272.0	178.7	136.4	64.0	4.8	8.7	2,000.5
1956—June ..	787.8	564.2	276.0	184.5	135.5	64.4	5.0	8.5	2,025.9
1955—May ..	777.3	555.4	270.0	178.7	136.1	64.4	4.8	8.7	1,995.4
June ..	779.2	556.7	272.0	178.7	136.4	64.0	4.8	8.7	2,000.5
July(b) ..	776.9	554.7	272.9	178.4	135.7	63.7	5.0	8.7	1,996.0
August ..	780.1	555.7	272.8	177.6	135.9	63.7	5.0	8.8	1,999.6
September..	779.8	556.5	273.5	179.5	136.6	63.3	5.0	8.9	2,003.1
1956—May ..	788.6	565.2	274.7	184.9	136.2	65.0	5.0	8.5	2,028.1
June ..	787.8	564.2	276.0	184.5	135.5	64.4	5.0	8.5	2,025.9
July ..	786.1	563.1	276.5	183.5	134.6	64.6	5.1	8.4	2,021.9
August ..	786.6	561.3	277.0	182.5	134.7	64.4	5.1	8.4	2,020.0
September..	786.8	561.6	276.7	182.6	134.4	64.4	5.1	8.5	2,020.1
FEMALES.									
1939—July ..	168.0	142.9	53.2	34.0	26.2	11.6	0.2	1.0	437.1
1954—June ..	279.5	217.7	86.1	56.9	42.8	21.0	0.9	2.6	707.5
1955—June ..	292.5	227.0	89.3	60.2	43.9	21.7	1.0	2.9	738.5
1956—June ..	300.2	233.0	91.2	62.9	44.6	22.8	1.1	3.1	758.9
1955—May ..	293.1	225.1	89.2	60.2	43.9	21.8	1.0	2.9	737.2
June ..	292.5	227.0	89.3	60.2	43.9	21.7	1.0	2.9	738.5
July ..	293.0	226.1	90.0	60.6	43.9	21.2	1.0	2.9	738.7
August ..	294.5	226.7	90.0	60.8	43.7	21.3	1.0	2.9	740.9
September..	295.9	227.0	90.4	61.4	43.9	21.4	1.0	2.9	743.9
1956—May ..	300.7	233.4	91.0	63.3	45.0	23.0	1.1	3.1	760.6
June ..	300.2	233.0	91.2	62.9	44.6	22.8	1.1	3.1	758.9
July ..	299.5	232.5	91.3	63.1	44.6	22.5	1.1	3.0	757.6
August ..	299.2	232.0	91.6	62.9	44.0	22.4	1.1	3.1	756.3
September..	300.1	232.3	91.7	62.6	44.2	21.9	1.1	3.1	757.0
PERSONS.									
1939—July ..	697.9	500.4	226.0	140.7	109.1	49.0	2.3	4.8	1,730.2
1954—June ..	1,037.6	757.4	349.8	232.9	177.8	83.8	5.8	10.8	2,655.9
1955—June ..	1,071.7	783.7	361.3	238.9	180.3	85.7	5.8	11.6	2,739.0
1956—June ..	1,088.0	797.2	367.2	247.4	180.1	87.2	6.1	11.6	2,784.8
1955—May ..	1,070.4	780.5	359.2	238.9	180.0	86.2	5.8	11.6	2,732.6
June ..	1,071.7	783.7	361.3	238.9	180.3	85.7	5.8	11.6	2,739.0
July(b) ..	1,069.9	780.8	362.9	239.0	179.6	84.9	6.0	11.6	2,734.7
August ..	1,074.6	782.4	362.8	238.4	179.6	85.0	6.0	11.7	2,740.5
September..	1,075.7	783.5	363.9	240.9	180.5	84.7	6.0	11.8	2,747.0
1956—May ..	1,089.3	798.6	365.7	248.2	181.2	88.0	6.1	11.6	2,788.7
June ..	1,088.0	797.2	367.2	247.4	180.1	87.2	6.1	11.6	2,784.8
July ..	1,085.6	795.6	367.8	246.6	179.2	87.1	6.2	11.4	2,779.5
August ..	1,085.8	793.3	368.6	245.4	178.7	86.8	6.2	11.5	2,776.3
September..	1,086.9	793.9	368.4	245.2	178.6	86.3	6.2	11.6	2,777.1

(a) Excludes Rural, Household Domestic and Defence Forces and National Service Trainees in camp. (b) Affected by industrial disputes. See also notes on page 6.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS EMPLOYED IN FACTORIES.(a)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.				
							Males.	Females.	Persons.	Index—Av. 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000.	
										Un-adjusted.	Divided by Index of Total Population.
	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.		
Monthly Average—											
1936-37 ..	197.8	183.0	45.9	39.3	21.4	11.8	359.6	139.6	499.2	950	959
1937-38 ..	215.6	193.6	49.6	42.6	22.0	12.5	387.7	148.2	535.9	1,019	1,019
1938-39 ..	219.5	193.9	51.5	42.0	22.1	13.2	391.8	150.4	542.2	1,031	1,022
1949-50 ..	358.8	281.5	79.6	75.7	36.6	21.9	636.9	217.2	854.1	1,624	1,386
1950-51 ..	379.0	290.4	83.2	80.8	38.6	22.2	664.8	229.4	894.2	1,701	1,408
1951-52 ..	377.9	292.2	83.1	81.3	38.8	22.0	672.3	223.0	895.3	1,703	1,369
1952-53 ..	351.4	279.1	82.1	77.2	38.7	21.5	652.7	197.3	850.0	1,617	1,268
1953-54 ..	369.6	296.1	85.0	82.2	40.3	22.4	681.1	214.5	895.6	1,703	1,312
1954-55 ..	384.0	308.5	87.1	85.1	41.3	23.0	704.9	224.1	929.0	1,767	1,334
1955-56 ..	391.5	315.6	87.8	87.0	41.8	24.3	719.8	228.2	948.0	1,803	1,328
Monthly Total—											
1954-55—											
September	380.4	304.9	88.8	84.1	40.5	22.2	698.9	222.0	920.9	1,752	1,333
October ..	382.1	306.6	88.0	84.2	40.9	22.2	700.6	223.4	924.0	1,757	1,334
November	384.6	308.1	87.6	84.4	41.1	22.3	703.5	224.6	928.1	1,765	1,337
December	383.8	308.3	85.7	84.7	41.2	23.1	702.4	224.4	926.8	1,763	1,333
January ..	383.8	309.8	83.0	85.8	41.4	23.5	703.9	223.4	927.3	1,764	1,330
February ..	386.8	311.2	85.2	85.8	41.7	23.2	707.1	226.8	933.9	1,776	1,336
March ..	387.7	312.5	85.7	86.4	41.9	23.5	709.7	228.0	937.7	1,784	1,339
April ..	386.9	311.2	86.4	86.5	41.9	23.8	711.4	225.3	936.7	1,782	1,336
May ..	388.0	310.7	88.0	85.8	42.0	23.8	713.5	224.8	938.3	1,785	1,335
June ..	388.2	311.6	88.9	85.7	41.8	23.6	714.5	225.3	939.8	1,787	1,335
1955-56—											
July(b) ..	386.3	310.2	89.8	85.7	41.5	23.1	712.2	224.4	936.6	1,781	1,327
August ..	389.7	312.1	89.7	85.5	41.7	23.1	716.2	225.6	941.8	1,791	1,333
September	390.2	312.9	90.0	86.0	42.0	23.2	717.4	226.9	944.3	1,796	1,333
October ..	391.7	314.5	90.0	86.0	41.9	23.3	718.7	228.7	947.4	1,802	1,335
November	393.3	315.6	90.2	86.4	42.2	23.5	722.4	228.8	951.2	1,809	1,337
December	392.3	314.8	85.0	87.3	42.3	24.4	718.5	227.6	946.1	1,800	1,327
January(b)	391.1	315.5	83.4	88.7	42.1	24.8	718.9	226.7	945.6	1,799	1,324
February ..	394.2	318.9	85.4	88.3	42.0	24.7	721.8	231.7	953.5	1,814	1,332
March ..	392.5	319.6	86.0	88.6	41.7	24.8	722.4	230.8	953.2	1,813	1,328
April ..	393.1	318.5	87.0	87.8	41.5	25.4	723.9	229.4	953.3	1,813	1,326
May ..	392.4	317.5	88.1	87.1	41.3	25.5	723.1	228.8	951.9	1,810	1,321
June ..	391.6	316.6	89.5	86.4	41.0	25.4	722.2	228.3	950.5	1,808	1,318
1956-57—											
July ..	389.5	315.0	90.0	86.1	40.7	25.3	719.9	226.7	946.6	1,800	1,309
August ..	390.0	313.6	89.5	85.8	40.5	25.1	718.2	226.3	944.5	1,796	1,304
September	390.9	313.7	89.7	85.6	40.8	24.6	718.1	227.2	945.3	1,798	1,303

(a) Excludes National Service Trainees in camp. Figures from 1948-49 subject to revision.

(b) Affected by industrial disputes.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS EMPLOYED IN RETAIL TRADE.(a)

('000.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.(b)		
							Males.	Females.	Persons.
Monthly Average—									
1949-50.. ..	93.4	66.8	30.2	23.1	17.6	7.0	126.7	112.0	238.7
1950-51.. ..	97.2	68.8	31.1	23.9	18.2	7.3	129.3	117.8	247.1
1951-52.. ..	95.9	68.6	31.3	23.6	18.4	7.3	128.0	117.7	245.7
1952-53.. ..	90.1	66.1	30.0	22.4	18.1	7.2	124.2	110.4	234.6
1953-54.. ..	93.0	67.5	30.6	23.1	19.0	7.5	127.2	114.0	241.2
1954-55.. ..	96.3	69.9	31.2	24.2	19.6	7.7	129.7	119.8	249.5
1955-56.. ..	97.7	71.4	31.7	25.3	19.8	8.0	130.5	124.2	254.7
Monthly Total—									
1954-55—									
September ..	93.9	68.3	31.0	23.6	19.2	7.6	128.2	115.9	244.1
October ..	94.8	68.7	31.1	23.7	19.4	7.5	128.2	117.7	245.9
November ..	100.0	71.0	31.8	24.4	19.8	7.8	131.7	123.8	255.5
December ..	104.4	72.7	32.5	24.5	20.3	8.1	134.9	128.3	263.2
January ..	96.4	70.2	31.2	24.5	19.6	7.9	130.1	120.3	250.4
February ..	95.8	70.0	30.8	24.5	19.4	7.8	129.6	119.5	249.1
March ..	96.1	69.8	30.8	24.5	19.6	7.8	129.6	119.6	249.2
April ..	95.9	70.0	31.0	24.5	19.7	7.8	129.2	120.3	249.5
May ..	96.5	70.3	31.3	24.6	19.7	7.8	129.4	121.6	251.0
June ..	95.7	71.0	31.3	24.6	19.8	7.8	129.2	121.6	250.8
1955-56—									
July ..	96.1	70.0	31.5	24.7	19.7	7.9	128.8	121.7	250.5
August ..	95.9	70.2	31.3	24.6	19.6	7.8	128.8	121.3	250.1
September ..	96.1	70.6	31.3	24.9	19.6	7.8	128.9	122.1	251.0
October ..	96.5	71.2	31.6	25.1	19.7	7.9	129.5	123.3	252.8
November ..	100.6	73.0	32.5	25.7	20.0	8.1	131.9	128.8	260.7
December ..	106.0	73.5	32.5	26.3	20.5	8.3	135.6	132.3	267.9
January ..	98.0	72.3	32.1	25.9	20.2	8.0	131.4	125.9	257.3
February ..	96.6	71.2	31.4	25.7	19.9	8.0	130.2	123.3	253.5
March ..	97.2	71.2	31.5	25.3	19.8	8.0	130.5	123.2	253.7
April ..	96.3	71.2	31.6	25.3	19.8	8.0	130.1	122.7	252.8
May ..	96.5	71.3	31.7	25.4	19.7	8.0	130.1	123.3	253.4
June ..	96.0	71.6	31.9	25.2	19.6	7.8	129.9	122.9	252.8
1956-57—									
July ..	95.8	71.0	31.7	25.3	19.6	7.8	129.5	122.4	251.9
August ..	95.1	70.6	31.6	24.8	19.5	7.8	129.0	121.0	250.0
September ..	94.9	70.8	31.5	24.8	19.4	7.7	128.7	121.1	249.8

(a) Estimates based on Pay-roll Tax returns. Excludes National Service Trainees in camp. Figures subject to revision.
 (b) Includes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory.

AVERAGE WEEKLY TOTAL WAGES PAID AND AVERAGE EARNINGS.

The following figures are derived from employment and wages recorded on Pay-roll Tax returns (which cover approximately 80 per cent. of total employment) and from estimates of the unrecorded balance. Pay of members of the armed forces is not included. The figures are not seasonally adjusted. A seasonally adjusted quarterly index of average weekly wage earnings is published on page 2.

Period.	New South Wales.(a)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.(b)	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
AVERAGE WEEKLY TOTAL WAGES PAID (£'000).							
1949-50	9,018	6,370	2,838	1,894	1,315	672	22,107
1950-51	11,385	7,916	3,501	2,389	1,639	817	27,647
1951-52	14,364	9,816	4,319	3,018	2,108	1,059	34,684
1952-53	15,090	10,490	4,750	3,311	2,344	1,178	37,163
1953-54	16,043	11,305	5,065	3,561	2,586	1,280	39,840
1954-55	17,357	12,221	5,398	3,839	2,731	1,365	42,911
1955-56	18,955	13,358	5,809	4,195	2,897	1,476	46,690
1954-55—							
September Qtr. ..	16,765	11,848	5,344	3,750	2,729	1,277	41,713
December „ ..	17,918	12,440	5,612	3,862	2,773	1,345	43,950
March „ ..	16,511	11,678	5,017	3,712	2,610	1,346	40,874
June „ ..	18,235	12,916	5,619	4,033	2,813	1,492	45,108
1955-56—							
September „ ..	18,454	12,890	5,765	4,097	2,844	1,414	45,464
December „ ..	19,683	13,664	6,034	4,267	2,980	1,462	48,090
March „ ..	18,229	12,832	5,435	4,057	2,849	1,442	44,844
June „ ..	19,453	14,045	6,002	4,359	2,915	1,587	48,361
1956-57—							
September „ ..	19,613	13,877	6,145	4,364	3,003	1,529	48,531

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS PER EMPLOYED MALE UNIT (£).(c)									
1949-50	9.50	9.78	8.34	8.83	8.65	8.49	9.26
1950-51	11.46	11.70	9.82	10.58	10.23	9.99	11.09
1951-52	14.24	14.20	11.93	13.13	12.80	12.59	13.65
1952-53	15.50	15.46	13.32	14.58	14.13	13.97	14.95
1953-54	16.15	16.27	14.05	15.30	15.04	14.92	15.69
1954-55	16.96	17.06	14.51	16.09	15.55	15.60	16.42
1955-56	18.16	18.22	15.34	17.10	16.37	16.66	17.51
1954-55—									
September Qtr.	16.60	16.76	14.41	15.86	15.62	14.91	16.14
December	17.53	17.45	15.14	16.26	15.78	15.51	16.86
March	16.07	16.20	13.59	15.50	14.86	15.20	15.59
June	17.64	17.81	14.90	16.73	15.92	16.76	17.07
1955-56—									
September	17.79	17.75	15.16	16.98	16.12	16.11	17.16
December	18.83	18.68	15.89	17.49	16.82	16.65	18.04
March	17.46	17.43	14.54	16.43	16.08	16.25	16.81
June	18.57	19.00	15.75	17.51	16.45	17.61	18.02
1956-57—									
September	18.75	18.87	15.97	17.63	17.14	17.15	18.12

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (b) Includes Northern Territory. (c) Total wages as above divided by total civil employment expressed in male units. Male units represent total male employment plus a proportion of female employment based on the approximate ratio of female to male earnings. The same ratio has been used in each State and because the average ratio of female to male earnings may vary between States, precise comparisons between average earnings in different States cannot be made on the basis of the figures above.

NOTE.—Comparisons as to trend should be made for complete years or corresponding periods of incomplete years. Quarterly totals and averages are affected by seasonal influences.

UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS.(a)

NUMBER OF PERSONS ON BENEFIT.

Period.	Unemployment.								Sickness.	Special. (b)
	New South Wales.(c)	Victoria.	Queens-land.	South Australia. (d)	Western Australia.	Tas- mania.	A.C.T. (e)	Australia.	Australia.	Australia.
Average of Monthly Figures—										
1948-49 (f) ..	282	32	1,094	15	121	31	..	1,575	7,614	591
1949-50 (f) ..	8,327	123	1,371	241	155	30	..	10,247	7,585	897
1950-51 (f) ..	287	71	326	6	59	14	..	763	7,059	863
1951-52 (f) ..	949	220	1,374	24	64	16	..	2,647	6,454	993
1952-53 ..	17,590	6,168	4,281	842	841	262	..	29,984	7,140	1,408
1953-54 ..	6,495	2,698	3,169	252	406	212	..	13,232	7,994	1,868
1954-55 ..	1,440	539	1,408	66	153	81	3	3,690	7,984	1,983
1955-56 ..	1,362	479	1,511	83	515	57	6	4,013	7,303	1,973
Last Saturday of Month—										
1954-55—										
October ..	1,334	602	802	55	95	114	5	3,007	8,113	1,933
November ..	1,266	501	916	60	114	113	4	g2,975	8,169	1,931
December ..	1,179	480	1,228	64	136	73	3	3,163	7,890	1,935
January ..	1,248	437	2,165	67	144	52	4	4,117	7,495	1,999
February ..	1,132	363	2,371	57	147	46	3	4,119	7,862	2,028
March ..	1,240	286	2,347	43	131	35	2	h4,086	7,702	2,035
April ..	1,113	288	1,799	50	157	41	3	h3,453	7,599	2,076
May ..	1,049	335	1,140	62	171	32	4	g2,794	7,734	2,090
June ..	1,040	319	964	70	239	45	2	2,679	7,905	2,045
1955-56—										
July ..	1,068	335	615	55	268	67	2	2,410	8,111	2,007
August ..	899	367	539	49	248	83	2	g2,188	8,077	2,026
September ..	706	327	425	37	256	80	1	1,832	7,729	1,977
October ..	658	294	427	46	215	85	2	1,727	7,402	1,957
November ..	644	277	431	44	216	64	1	1,677	7,409	1,970
December ..	965	356	1,442	56	377	48	1	3,245	6,703	1,943
January ..	1,321	359	2,561	46	414	40	1	4,742	6,846	1,965
February ..	1,932	341	3,371	55	374	50	5	6,128	7,150	1,998
March ..	2,233	350	3,268	62	536	31	12	h6,494	6,855	1,966
April ..	1,771	566	2,223	86	683	30	18	h5,379	6,979	1,947
May ..	1,837	760	1,562	140	989	36	11	g5,336	7,129	1,977
June ..	2,313	1,412	1,270	319	1,606	71	12	7,003	7,244	1,947
1956-57—										
July ..	3,051	2,515	909	493	2,082	91	22	g9,164	7,453	2,040
August ..	3,103	3,129	809	706	2,304	110	16	10,177	7,557	2,029
September ..	3,208	2,949	792	674	1,871	108	12	9,614	7,288	1,998
October ..	3,126	3,067	829	640	1,788	88	7	9,545	7,261	1,986

(a) As furnished by the Department of Social Services. (b) Excludes migrants. (c) Includes Australian Capital Territory prior to July, 1954. (d) Includes Northern Territory prior to July, 1954. (e) Included with New South Wales prior to July, 1954. (f) Compiled from information furnished by the Department of Social Services on the operation of Part VII. of the *Social Services Act 1947-1956*. (g) Includes Northern Territory, 1. (h) Includes Northern Territory, 2.

UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS—continued.

NUMBER ADMITTED TO UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT(a) AND AMOUNT PAID IN BENEFITS : AUSTRALIA.

Period.	Number Admitted to Unemployment Benefit.			Amount Paid in Benefits.				
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Unem- ployment.	Sickness.	Special—		Total.
						Migrants.	Ordinary.	
				£	£	£	£	£
Monthly Average—								
1948-49.. ..	955	56	1,011	11,570	66,319	7,088	4,225	89,202
1949-50.. ..	10,854	2,571	13,425	105,506	68,001	35,361		208,868
1950-51.. ..	881	111	992	5,204	62,143	13,520	5,568	86,435
1951-52.. ..	1,771	520	2,291	15,584	59,157	2,319	6,911	83,971
1952-53.. ..	12,793	1,797	14,590	380,812	116,108	8,172	16,197	521,289
1953-54.. ..	4,368	810	5,178	208,788	139,633	4,561	25,639	378,621
1954-55.. ..	1,529	496	2,025	56,620	133,987	4,534	24,848	219,989
1955-56.. ..	2,525	590	3,115	55,985	126,589	5,433	25,585	213,592
Monthly Total—								
1954-55—								
October (b) ..	1,022	486	1,508	44,162	123,395	1,738	20,449	189,744
November ..	842	352	1,194	46,670	146,493	5,362	26,107	224,632
December ..	986	365	1,351	36,282	129,836	3,335	24,382	193,835
January (b) ..	3,248	521	3,769	58,126	135,073	5,146	20,940	219,285
February ..	2,148	463	2,611	59,842	121,882	8,397	20,648	210,769
March ..	2,590	616	3,206	63,793	145,720	2,844	28,597	240,954
April (b) ..	1,714	558	2,272	65,445	142,051	4,112	25,774	237,382
May ..	927	453	1,380	54,011	126,048	5,414	28,154	213,627
June ..	1,043	476	1,519	39,883	121,975	1,390	27,838	191,086
1955-56—								
July (b) ..	1,076	638	1,714	37,265	127,405	3,745	32,994	201,409
August ..	681	363	1,044	30,073	127,300	3,404	25,402	186,179
September ..	607	276	883	29,572	154,338	4,307	32,351	220,568
October (b) ..	706	363	1,069	23,563	121,599	11,343	16,726	173,231
November ..	663	338	1,001	22,461	120,050	4,763	24,762	172,036
December (b) ..	2,225	449	2,674	23,298	121,350	2,603	23,519	170,770
January ..	3,733	439	4,172	52,714	139,321	6,945	26,958	225,938
February ..	5,851	850	6,701	80,469	119,925	7,737	22,343	230,474
March (b) ..	3,776	816	4,592	90,790	123,763	3,278	24,865	242,696
April ..	3,078	694	3,772	108,321	120,559	8,714	24,419	262,013
May ..	2,987	790	3,777	86,573	119,215	4,563	25,652	236,003
June (b) ..	4,919	1,066	5,985	86,720	124,246	3,797	27,032	241,795
1956-57—								
July ..	5,405	1,017	6,422	101,482	120,263	8,638	22,206	252,589
August ..	6,203	1,029	7,232	141,971	147,559	6,164	29,466	325,160
September(b) ..	6,289	985	7,274	137,539	122,136	5,042	22,366	287,083
October ..	4,703	828	5,531	145,851	137,133	1,789	27,377	312,150

(a) Number admitted during the four weeks ended on the last Saturday in the month except where otherwise shown. (b) Number admitted during the five weeks ended on the last Saturday in the month.

VALUE OF RETAIL SALES IN AUSTRALIA(a): COMMODITY GROUPS.

The figures in the table below relate to goods (as distinct from services, accommodation, entertainments, meals, &c.) sold to the public by establishments selling retail goods from fixed premises (shops, rooms, kiosks, yards) and include the retail sales of establishments principally engaged in wholesale, manufacturing or servicing activities. The table contains particulars of retail sales of goods for the years 1948-49 to 1955-56 on a comparable basis throughout. The figures for the years 1947-48, 1948-49 and 1952-53 were obtained from Censuses taken in respect of those years, whereas figures for the other periods shown are estimates based on sample surveys. To provide comparability with the 1952-53 Census an adjustment has been made in the figures originally published for hardware, china and glassware for 1948-49 and subsequent periods.

(£ million.)

Period.	Groceries.	Butchers' Meat.	Other Food. (b)	Beer, Wine and Spirits.	Clothing, Drapery and Foot-wear.	Hard-ware.(c)	Electrical Goods.	Furniture.	Other Goods.	Total (Excl. Motor Vehicles, &c.)	Motor Vehicles, Parts, Petrol, &c.(d)
Quarterly Average—											
1948-49 ..	35.9	16.3	29.1	23.8	59.5	13.9	8.5	11.6	42.0	240.6	41.5
1949-50 ..	40.2	18.9	32.9	26.2	66.0	16.6	10.9	13.6	51.1	276.4	68.3
1950-51 ..	46.5	23.1	38.9	30.8	82.1	22.8	16.2	19.2	63.1	342.7	95.5
1951-52 ..	58.2	29.7	47.0	38.5	87.9	27.4	19.4	19.0	76.9	404.0	108.3
1952-53 ..	65.4	32.0	51.7	43.3	88.8	28.5	19.0	18.2	78.9	425.8	104.3
1953-54 ..	68.8	33.4	55.9	46.7	96.9	31.2	22.8	20.3	84.2	460.2	123.1
1954-55 ..	76.4	36.7	61.5	50.5	105.4	35.6	24.9	21.6	91.2	503.8	144.7
1955-56 ..	83.7	39.8	67.5	54.4	109.7	38.3	26.2	22.8	98.0	540.4	163.5
Quarterly Total—											
1951-52—											
Sept. Qtr. ..	53.2	27.9	43.2	32.3	83.4	26.2	20.5	20.7	71.1	378.5	105.6
Dec. " ..	59.9	29.5	48.9	41.7	97.7	29.6	22.2	20.5	87.3	437.3	115.7
Mar. " ..	58.2	30.1	48.4	41.3	77.9	26.7	18.2	17.2	74.2	392.2	108.5
June " ..	61.6	31.2	47.3	38.6	92.6	27.1	16.6	17.7	74.9	407.6	103.5
1952-53—											
Sept. " ..	62.8	31.8	48.6	38.7	80.3	26.4	16.9	17.3	74.7	397.5	95.2
Dec. " ..	68.9	32.1	54.2	47.4	100.6	30.9	22.5	19.8	89.4	465.8	110.3
Mar. " ..	63.2	31.2	51.8	44.9	76.5	27.2	18.4	17.5	75.0	405.7	101.5
June " ..	66.6	32.7	52.2	42.0	97.7	29.3	18.0	18.2	76.4	433.1	110.3
1953-54—											
Sept. " ..	67.9	33.4	53.0	41.9	88.0	29.6	20.1	19.6	78.9	432.4	113.5
Dec. " ..	72.9	33.8	58.5	51.9	111.4	34.9	28.0	22.8	96.6	510.8	127.2
Mar. " ..	65.6	32.7	56.0	48.3	82.7	28.7	22.1	18.1	78.6	432.8	117.7
June " ..	68.7	34.0	56.2	44.6	105.3	31.5	21.0	20.5	82.8	464.6	133.9
1954-55—											
Sept., " ..	72.3	36.0	58.2	45.4	97.3	34.3	23.2	21.8	82.3	470.8	140.9
Dec. " ..	80.7	36.6	64.1	53.6	120.0	39.2	30.5	24.4	104.8	553.9	148.0
Mar. " ..	74.2	36.0	61.8	53.4	90.0	33.6	23.8	19.2	86.4	478.4	136.4
June " ..	78.7	38.1	61.7	49.7	114.2	35.4	22.1	21.1	91.1	512.1	153.4
1955-56—											
Sept. " ..	81.1	38.9	63.9	48.8	103.7	37.7	25.1	23.2	91.7	514.1	165.3
Dec. " ..	86.1	39.3	70.2	58.7	125.9	42.2	32.5	25.7	115.6	596.2	170.1
Mar. " ..	83.2	39.3	69.3	56.3	92.8	35.7	24.6	20.3	90.2	511.7	156.9
June " ..	84.3	41.5	66.6	53.8	116.5	37.7	22.7	22.1	94.3	539.5	161.7

(a) Excludes Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory. (b) Includes fresh fruit and vegetables, confectionery, soft drinks, ice cream, cakes, pastry, cooked provisions, fish, &c., but excludes some delivered milk and bread. (c) Excludes basic building materials (e.g. timber, roofing tiles, bricks, &c.). (d) Excludes farm machinery and implements, earth-moving equipment, &c.

RETAIL SALES: HIRE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS ENTERED INTO BY FINANCE COMPANIES.

The following statistics relate to businesses which finance the sale of goods by retail but do not retail goods themselves. Agreements originally made between retailers and customers, and subsequently assigned to finance companies are excluded from the particulars of agreements made during each quarter, but, from the time of assignment, are included in the figures for balances outstanding.

AGREEMENTS MADE, AUSTRALIA.

Period.	Number of Agreements.	Value of Goods.(a)		Amount Financed.(b)		Average Proportion of Hire Purchase Sale Financed.(b) (Per cent.)
		Total. (£'000.)	Average per Agreement. (£)	Total. (£'000.)	Average per Agreement. (£)	

MOTOR VEHICLES, TRACTORS, ETC.

Monthly Average—									
1953-54	..	..	(c) 19,618	(c) 13,183	(c) 672	(c) 7,363	(c) 375	(c) 56
1954-55	..	..	22,922	15,822	690	9,147	399	58
1955-56	..	..	24,959	17,459	700	10,313	413	59
Monthly Total—									
1956—January	..	..	21,634	13,805	638	8,030	371	58
February	..	..	22,651	15,601	689	9,234	408	59
March	..	..	24,796	17,600	710	10,301	415	58
April ..	..	..	22,535	15,709	697	9,155	406	58
May ..	..	..	25,444	18,375	722	10,661	419	58
June ..	..	..	23,442	17,109	730	10,338	441	60
July p ..	..	..	25,681	18,791	732	11,298	440	60
August p	..	..	27,894	20,210	725	12,360	443	61
September p	..	..	25,322	18,844	744	11,322	447	60

PLANT AND MACHINERY.

Monthly Average—									
1953-54	..	..	..	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)
1954-55	..	..	..	1,230	775	630	472	384	61
1955-56	..	..	..	1,582	1,036	655	640	405	62
Monthly Total—									
1956—January	..	..	..	1,228	795	647	491	400	62
February	..	..	..	1,737	1,076	619	664	382	62
March	..	..	..	1,807	1,150	636	709	392	62
April ..	..	..	..	1,673	989	591	611	365	62
May ..	..	..	..	1,716	1,033	602	636	371	62
June ..	..	..	..	1,361	976	717	624	458	64
July p ..	..	..	..	1,493	1,030	690	662	443	64
August p	..	..	..	1,693	1,057	624	677	400	64
September p	..	..	..	1,538	1,467	954	953	620	65

(a) Value at net cash or list price (excluding hiring charges and insurance).
(c) Includes plant and machinery. (d) Included with Motor Vehicles, Tractors, etc.

(b) Excludes hiring charges and insurance.

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

RETAIL SALES : HIRE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS ENTERED INTO BY FINANCE COMPANIES—*continued.*

AGREEMENTS MADE, AUSTRALIA—*continued.*

Period.	Number of Agreements.	Value of Goods.(a)		Amount Financed.(b)		Average Proportion of Hire Purchase Sale Financed.(b) (Per cent.)
		Total. (£'000.)	Average per Agreement. (£)	Total. (£'000.)	Average per Agreement. (£)	

HOUSEHOLD AND PERSONAL GOODS.

Monthly Average—						
1953-54	46,234	3,416	74	2,684	58	79
1954-55	52,827	4,037	76	3,269	62	81
1955-56	55,463	4,220	76	3,424	62	81
Monthly Total—						
1956—January	57,345	4,723	82	3,830	67	82
February	54,300	4,266	79	3,446	63	80
March	56,631	4,321	76	3,456	61	80
April	48,221	3,623	75	2,885	60	80
May	54,736	3,762	69	2,992	55	80
June	50,047	3,237	65	2,680	54	83
July p	49,267	3,182	65	2,553	52	80
August p	51,708	3,581	69	2,837	55	79
September p	46,112	3,341	72	2,659	58	80

TOTAL (ALL GOODS).

Monthly Average—						
1953-54	65,852	16,599	252	10,047	153	61
1954-55	76,979	20,634	268	12,888	167	62
1955-56	82,004	22,715	277	14,377	175	63
Monthly Total—						
1956—January	80,207	19,323	241	12,351	154	64
February	78,688	20,943	266	13,344	170	64
March	83,234	23,071	277	14,466	174	63
April	72,429	20,321	281	12,651	175	62
May	81,896	23,170	283	14,289	174	61
June	74,850	21,322	285	13,642	182	64
July p	76,441	23,003	301	14,513	190	63
August p	81,295	24,848	306	15,874	195	64
September p	72,972	23,652	324	14,934	205	63

(a) Value at net cash or list price (excluding hiring charges and insurance).

(b) Excludes hiring charges and insurance.

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

RETAIL SALES : HIRE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS ENTERED INTO BY FINANCE COMPANIES—*continued.*

BALANCES OUTSTANDING (INCLUDING HIRING CHARGES AND INSURANCE), STATES.(a)
(£'000.)

As at—	New South Wales.(b)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.(c)	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
1953—							
30th September(d) ..	37,624	21,765	16,116	9,343	7,548	3,426	95,822
31st December(d) ..	43,062	25,166	18,392	10,869	8,577	3,865	109,931
1954—							
31st March ..	46,815	27,623	19,694	11,741	9,107	4,232	119,212
30th June ..	50,596	30,819	22,361	13,116	10,300	4,772	131,964
30th September ..	54,074	34,248	24,041	14,768	11,545	5,274	143,950
31st December ..	60,852	38,860	26,196	16,546	12,693	5,918	161,065
1955—							
31st March ..	64,799	41,824	27,106	17,219	13,370	6,434	170,752
30th June ..	68,626	44,555	28,679	18,136	14,319	7,012	181,327
30th September ..	74,559	48,236	30,587	19,512	15,280	7,460	195,634
31st December ..	78,782	53,115	32,041	21,081	16,302	7,951	209,272
1956—							
31st January ..	78,078	53,455	31,866	20,882	16,368	8,048	208,697
29th February ..	77,631	54,363	31,505	20,901	16,019	8,060	208,479
31st March ..	77,719	54,948	31,502	20,975	16,057	8,033	209,234
30th April ..	77,363	55,151	31,257	20,794	15,867	8,068	208,500
31st May ..	77,665	55,509	31,180	20,918	15,693	8,159	209,124
30th June ..	77,666	55,645	31,328	20,933	15,600	8,165	209,337
31st July p ..							210,578
31st August p ..							213,076
30th September p ..							215,765

(a) Balances on agreements entered into during the quarter or at any time previously. (b) Includes Australian Capital Territory.
(c) Includes Northern Territory. (d) Excludes balances outstanding on agreements originally financed by retailers but subsequently assigned to finance companies. At 31st March, 1954, these balances amounted to less than £1 million in Australia.

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

WHOLESALE TRADE.

An indication of fluctuations in the value of wholesale trade is given by the returns made under the Sales Tax Acts. With certain specified exemptions, all goods sold by wholesale in Australia, including imports, are taxable. The returns do not relate to all wholesale trade, as vendors trading only in exempt goods are not required to furnish returns. They do not necessarily cover a constant proportion of all trade. The effects of legislation and administrative changes on the recorded values of taxable and exempt goods respectively are somewhat uncertain, but total recorded sales are affected in smaller degrees. Insufficient information is available to enable adjustment to be made to the crude figures on this account.

(£ million.)

Period.								Average Monthly Net Sales Recorded.		
								Taxable Goods.	Exempt Goods.	Total.
1936-37	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15.4	21.8	37.2
1937-38	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16.9	23.6	40.5
1938-39	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16.4	23.4	39.8
1945-46	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22.3	33.4	55.7
1946-47	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24.6	42.2	66.8
1947-48	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26.2	53.3	79.5
1948-49	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30.3	63.1	93.4
1949-50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	38.0	72.2	110.2
1950-51	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	45.6	94.9	140.5
1951-52	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	52.0	110.1	162.1
1952-53	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	46.3	111.8	158.1
1953-54	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	57.3	122.2	179.5
1954-55	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	63.9	141.6	205.5
1955-56 r	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	66.5	154.8	221.3

								Monthly Taxable Net Sales at each Rate of Tax.(a)					Monthly Net Sales Recorded.		
								10%	12½%	16⅔%	25%	30%			
1955-56—															
August	..	..	13.9	37.2	19.1	..	..	70.2	160.3	230.5					
September	..	..	14.5	37.8	19.1	..	..	71.4	158.4	229.8					
October	..	..	15.5	39.5	17.9	..	..	72.9	151.8	224.7					
November	..	..	16.3	41.6	20.9	..	..	78.8	164.7	243.5					
December	..	..	16.4	40.7	18.0	..	..	75.1	147.1	222.2					
January	..	..	9.9	30.2	11.3	..	..	51.4	127.4	178.8					
February	..	..	12.6	35.9	15.8	..	..	64.3	143.8	208.1					
March	..	..	13.4	33.4	17.0	1.9	5.5	71.2	162.9	234.1					
April	..	..	11.6	24.6	8.9	4.4	9.3	58.8	159.0	217.8					
May	..	..	13.0	27.3	10.4	5.0	10.3	66.0	169.4	235.4					
June r	..	..	10.5	24.1	9.5	4.1	8.9	57.1	166.6	223.7					
1956-57—															
July (b) r	..	..	11.2	25.7	9.1	5.1	8.9	60.0	151.0	211.0					
August (b)	..	..	12.6	29.2	9.1	5.8	9.3	66.0	167.5	233.5					

(a) On 15th March, 1956, the special rates of 25 per cent. and 30 per cent. were imposed.

For meaning of symbol r see page 1.

(b) Preliminary and partly estimated.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : ECONOMIC CLASSES.

(£A'000 f.o.b. Port of Shipment.)

Period.	Producers' Materials for use in—										Fuels and Lubricants. (d)		Auxiliary Aids to Production. (e)		Munitions and War Stores.	
	Building and Construction.	Rural Industries.	Manufacturing.				Total. (c)									
			Motor Vehicle Assembly. <i>ab</i>	Other. (c)												
			Class IA.	Class IB.	Class Ic (5).		Class Ic (1-4).		CLASS I.		Class II.	Class III.		Class VII.		
		%	%		%		%		%		%		%		%	
Monthly Average—																
1936-37 ..	347	4.0	143	1.7	(f)	(f)	3,269	38.0	3,759	43.7	621	7.2	415	4.8	31	0.4
1937-38 ..	472	4.4	155	1.5			4,094	38.6	4,721	44.5	784	7.4	480	4.5	36	0.3
1938-39 ..	385	4.1	171	1.8	(f)	(f)	3,448	36.5	4,004	42.4	736	7.8	476	5.1	88	0.9
1949-50 ..	2,026	4.5	431	1.0			13,572	30.4	16,029	35.9	3,852	8.6	2,423	5.4	129	0.3
1950-51 ..	3,408	5.5	415	0.7	(f)	(f)	22,231	36.0	26,054	42.2	5,032	8.1	2,929	4.7	94	0.2
1951-52 ..	4,898	5.6	518	0.6			32,889	37.6	38,305	43.8	5,902	6.8	5,458	6.2	1,132	1.3
1952-53 ..	1,482	3.5	368	0.9	(f)	(f)	14,228	33.4	16,078	37.8	5,313	12.5	1,951	4.6	755	1.8
1953-54 ..	1,946	3.4	441	0.8			19,548	34.6	21,935	38.8	5,633	10.0	1,995	3.5	351	0.6
1954-55 ..	3,044	4.3	517	0.7	(f)	(f)	25,691	36.7	29,252	41.7	4,790	6.9	2,503	3.6	728	0.9
1955-56 ..	2,567	3.8	550	0.8			5,672	8.3	25,665	37.7	34,454	50.6	3,889	5.7	2,357	3.4	1,071	1.6
Monthly Total—																
1954-55—																
October ..	2,901	4.5	619	1.0	(f)	(f)	23,274	36.0	26,794	41.5	4,129	6.4	2,527	3.9	177	0.3
November ..	2,404	4.4	407	0.7			19,215	35.0	22,026	40.1	4,332	7.9	1,705	3.1	354	0.6
December ..	3,354	5.2	343	0.6	(f)	(f)	23,787	37.1	27,484	42.9	4,524	7.1	2,002	3.1	490	0.8
January ..	3,235	4.3	317	0.4			28,044	36.9	31,596	41.6	5,916	7.8	2,095	2.7	415	0.5
February ..	2,877	4.1	540	0.8	(f)	(f)	27,224	39.0	30,641	43.9	4,431	6.4	2,258	3.2	450	0.6
March ..	3,336	4.3	706	0.9			30,908	39.8	34,950	45.0	4,632	6.0	2,969	3.8	620	0.8
April ..	2,914	4.0	470	0.6	(f)	(f)	27,403	37.4	30,787	42.0	4,970	6.8	2,055	2.8	1,483	2.1
May ..	3,216	4.1	421	0.5			29,662	37.6	33,299	42.2	4,820	6.1	3,187	4.1	1,817	2.3
June ..	3,282	4.4	459	0.6	(f)	(f)	27,816	37.2	31,557	42.2	3,738	5.0	2,646	3.6	2,310	3.0
1955-56—									(g)							
July ..	2,819	4.6	650	1.0	4,421	7.2	23,176	37.7	31,066	50.5	5,110	8.3	3,218	5.2	819	1.3
August ..	3,035	4.3	695	1.0	5,524	7.7	26,569	37.3	35,823	50.3	5,792	8.1	2,098	3.0	1,418	2.0
September ..	2,786	3.7	564	0.8	6,566	8.7	26,122	34.9	36,038	48.1	3,752	5.0	3,551	4.7	860	1.2
October ..	2,749	4.0	470	0.7	4,587	6.7	26,365	38.7	34,171	50.1	4,816	7.1	2,232	3.3	733	1.1
November ..	3,084	4.2	326	0.4	5,933	8.1	27,732	37.8	37,075	50.5	2,863	3.9	2,371	3.2	815	1.1
December ..	2,603	4.1	679	1.1	4,954	7.8	24,205	38.4	32,441	51.4	3,571	5.6	1,944	3.1	960	1.5
January(h) ..	2,446	3.8	483	0.8	5,241	8.3	23,944	37.7	32,114	50.6	3,811	6.0	1,661	2.6	876	1.4
February(h) ..	1,905	3.2	412	0.7	5,076	8.6	23,858	40.4	31,251	52.9	2,971	5.0	2,028	3.4	839	1.4
March(h) ..	2,597	3.2	520	0.6	8,028	10.0	29,917	37.2	41,062	51.0	3,364	4.2	2,553	3.1	1,515	1.9
April ..	2,452	3.6	424	0.6	5,838	8.6	25,566	37.6	34,280	50.4	3,255	4.8	2,395	3.5	822	1.2
May ..	2,456	3.4	934	1.3	6,085	8.5	26,112	36.5	35,587	49.7	4,258	6.0	2,731	3.8	2,356	3.3
June ..	1,866	2.9	441	0.7	5,817	9.2	24,407	38.5	32,531	51.3	3,104	4.9	1,507	2.4	840	1.3
1956-57 p—																
July ..	1,997	3.5	521	0.9	4,799	8.4	22,717	39.6	30,034	52.4	1,955	3.4	2,443	4.3	243	0.4
August ..	2,683	3.4	631	0.8	7,486	9.5	29,679	37.7	40,479	51.4	2,826	3.6	3,116	4.0	1,581	2.0
September ..	2,298	4.3	652	1.2	3,915	7.3	20,316	37.9	27,181	50.7	2,602	4.9	1,948	3.6	698	1.3
October ..	2,166	3.8	648	1.1	4,443	7.8	22,202	38.9	29,459	51.6	2,704	4.7	2,293	4.0	1,108	1.9

(a) Owing to insufficient information it is not possible to treat unassembled tractors and other machinery in a similar manner to motor vehicles and all such machinery is treated as capital equipment whether imported in an assembled or unassembled condition. (b) Includes replacement parts. (c) Excludes a percentage for piece goods to be sold at retail and paper to be used solely for wrapping which are now recorded in classes VI E-J and III, respectively. Prior to issue No. 227 these goods were recorded in classes VI E-J and III, only for those periods subsequent to June, 1956. (d) Excludes crude petroleum which is included in class Ic (1-4). (e) Includes a percentage for paper used solely for wrapping, see note (c). (f) Included in class VB. (g) Prior to July, 1955 excludes completely knocked down vehicles, components for the assembly of motor vehicles and replacement parts which since July, 1955 have been recorded in class IC (5). (h) Affected by industrial dispute.

For meaning of symbols p, —, see page 1.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : ECONOMIC CLASSES—continued.

(£A'000 f.o.b. Port of Shipment.)

Period.	Capital Equipment.						Finished Consumer Goods.							
	Producers' Equipment.		Transport Equipment.				Food, Beverages and Tobacco.		Clothing and Accessories.		All Other.		Total.	
			Complete Road Vehicles and Assembled Chassis.		Railway Equipment Vessels and Civil Aircraft.									
Class IV.		Class V. B.		Class V. A, C, D.		Class VI. A, B, C.		Class VI. D.		Class VI. E-J.		Class VI.		
Monthly Average—		%		%		%		%		%		%		%
1936-37 ..	884	10.3	872	10.1	146	1.7	516	6.0	46	0.5	1,316	15.3	1,878	21.8
1937-38 ..	1,149	10.8	1,161	11.0	205	1.9	531	5.0	68	0.6	1,480	14.0	2,079	19.6
1938-39 ..	1,104	11.7	899	9.5	119	1.3	564	6.0	84	0.9	1,361	14.4	2,009	21.3
1949-50 ..	5,297	11.9	8,643	19.3	497	1.1	2,163	4.9	578	1.3	5,066	11.3	7,807	17.5
1950-51 ..	6,679	10.8	9,245	15.0	1,137	1.8	2,873	4.7	745	1.2	6,993	11.3	10,611	17.2
1951-52 ..	9,960	11.4	10,942	12.5	1,661	1.9	3,074	3.5	1,149	1.3	9,896	11.3	14,119	16.1
1952-53 ..	8,409	19.8	3,569	8.3	1,703	4.0	1,917	4.5	130	0.3	2,704	6.4	4,751	11.2
1953-54 ..	9,474	16.8	5,769	10.2	1,552	2.7	2,658	4.7	446	0.8	6,736	11.9	9,840	17.4
1954-55 ..	10,289	14.8	7,377	10.5	1,824	2.6	3,236	4.6	614	0.9	9,468	13.5	13,318	19.0
1955-56 ..	11,174	16.4	(b)1,784	2.6	1,841	2.7	2,276	3.3	491	0.7	8,854	13.0	11,621	17.0
Monthly Total— 1954-55—														
October..	10,267	15.9	5,809	9.0	2,346	3.6	2,121	3.3	586	0.9	9,859	15.2	12,566	19.4
November	7,633	13.9	6,280	11.5	1,421	2.6	2,432	4.4	468	0.9	8,253	15.0	11,153	20.3
December	9,446	14.7	6,198	9.6	2,042	3.2	3,208	5.0	608	1.0	8,080	12.6	11,896	18.6
January ..	11,380	15.0	8,129	10.7	2,216	2.9	3,033	4.0	853	1.1	10,380	13.7	14,266	18.8
February	9,247	13.2	7,244	10.4	2,120	3.0	4,613	6.6	845	1.2	8,003	11.5	13,461	19.3
March ..	10,429	13.4	7,258	9.3	2,314	3.0	4,333	5.6	886	1.1	9,281	12.0	14,500	18.7
April ..	10,564	14.4	8,437	11.5	1,558	2.1	3,591	4.9	612	0.9	9,178	12.5	13,381	18.3
May ..	11,363	14.4	9,185	11.7	1,681	2.1	2,675	3.4	412	0.5	10,419	13.2	13,506	17.1
June ..	11,623	15.6	8,931	12.0	1,157	1.5	2,548	3.4	408	0.6	9,792	13.1	12,748	17.1
1955-56—			(b)											
July ..	8,657	14.1	1,586	2.6	1,897	3.1	1,219	2.0	403	0.6	7,555	12.3	9,177	14.9
August ..	9,779	13.7	1,750	2.5	2,209	3.1	1,776	2.5	521	0.7	r10002	14.1	r12,299	17.3
September	12,573	16.8	2,042	2.7	1,546	2.1	2,822	3.8	572	0.7	r11138	14.9	r14,532	19.4
October..	10,298	15.1	1,623	2.4	1,388	2.0	2,713	4.0	596	0.9	9,570	14.0	12,879	18.9
November	12,913	17.6	2,230	3.1	1,459	2.0	2,885	3.9	474	0.7	r10286	14.0	r13,645	18.6
December	10,932	17.3	1,695	2.7	1,151	1.8	2,418	3.8	386	0.6	r7,697	12.2	r10,501	16.6
January(c)	10,566	16.7	2,126	3.4	1,337	2.1	2,116	3.3	522	0.8	r8,304	13.1	r10,942	17.2
February(c)	10,076	17.1	1,581	2.7	1,479	2.5	1,575	2.7	535	0.9	r6,795	11.4	r8,905	15.0
March(c)	13,354	16.6	2,064	2.6	3,096	3.8	3,126	3.9	766	1.0	r9,631	11.9	r13,523	16.8
April ..	11,971	17.6	1,449	2.2	2,268	3.3	2,846	4.2	475	0.7	r8,202	12.1	r11,523	17.0
May ..	12,253	17.1	1,515	2.1	1,625	2.3	1,849	2.6	357	0.5	r9,036	12.6	r11,242	15.7
June ..	10,711	16.9	1,750	2.8	2,641	4.2	1,961	3.1	285	0.4	r8,041	12.7	r10,287	16.2
1956-57 p—														
July ..	9,735	17.0	1,119	1.9	2,282	4.0	2,233	3.9	212	0.4	r7,114	12.3	r9,559	16.6
August ..	13,676	17.3	1,578	2.0	1,547	2.0	2,807	3.6	502	0.6	r10690	13.5	r13,999	17.7
September	8,542	15.9	1,121	2.1	2,473	4.6	2,139	4.0	264	0.5	6,652	12.4	9,055	16.9
October..	8,822	15.5	845	1.5	1,841	3.2	2,054	3.6	370	0.7	7,592	13.3	10,016	17.6

(a) Includes a percentage for piece goods to be sold at retail, see note (c), page 18. (b) Prior to July, 1955 includes completely knocked down vehicles, components for the assembly of motor vehicles and replacement parts which since July, 1955 have been recorded in Class 1c. (c) Affected by industrial dispute.

For meaning of symbols p, r, —, see page 1.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : DEGREE OF MANUFACTURE.

(£A'000 f.o.b. Port of Shipment.)

Period.	Producers' Materials. (Class I.) (a)			Finished Consumer Goods. (Class VI.) (b)			Total Imports of Merchandise. (All Classes.)			
	Crude.	Simply transformed.	Elaborately transformed.	Crude.	Simply transformed.	Elaborately transformed.	Crude.	Simply transformed.	Elaborately transformed.	Total.
Monthly Average—										
1936-37 ..	1,024	373	2,362	45	303	1,530	1,069	1,505	6,032	8,606
1937-38 ..	1,241	449	3,031	48	300	1,731	1,289	1,796	7,530	10,615
1938-39 ..	1,100	351	2,553	55	309	1,645	1,155	1,627	6,653	9,435
1949-50 ..	3,916	1,777	10,336	180	1,277	6,350	4,096	7,851	32,730	44,677
1950-51 ..	7,007	3,178	15,869	273	1,600	8,738	7,280	10,954	43,547	61,781
1951-52 ..	7,788	4,788	25,729	359	1,446	12,314	8,147	13,933	65,399	87,479
1952-53 ..	4,712	2,195	9,171	251	1,182	3,318	4,963	9,443	28,123	42,529
1953-54 ..	6,260	3,189	12,486	385	1,471	7,984	6,645	11,384	38,520	56,549
1954-55 ..	8,818	4,986	15,448	428	2,082	10,808	9,246	13,167	47,668	70,081
1955-56 ..	10,095	4,557	19,802	423	1,191	10,003	10,518	10,913	46,760	68,191
Monthly Total—										
1954-55—										
October ..	7,248	5,424	14,122	399	1,079	11,088	7,647	11,873	45,095	64,615
November ..	6,243	4,396	11,387	376	1,344	9,433	6,619	11,154	37,131	54,904
December ..	8,997	4,126	14,361	333	2,295	9,268	9,330	12,149	42,603	64,082
January ..	8,058	5,548	17,990	522	1,534	12,210	8,580	14,444	52,989	76,013
February ..	10,559	4,415	15,667	342	3,370	9,749	10,901	13,448	45,503	69,852
March ..	11,587	5,737	17,626	424	3,260	10,816	12,011	15,025	50,636	77,672
April ..	9,740	5,321	15,726	484	2,370	10,527	10,224	13,960	49,051	73,235
May ..	10,206	6,243	16,850	383	1,719	11,404	10,589	14,196	54,073	78,858
June ..	9,789	5,091	16,677	605	1,108	11,035	10,394	11,333	52,983	74,710
1955-56—			(c)							
July ..	9,709	3,716	17,641	238	361	8,575	9,947	10,226	41,357	61,530
August ..	10,834	4,287	20,702	515	450	11,361	11,349	11,750	48,069	71,168
September ..	8,169	4,650	23,219	348	1,646	12,555	8,517	11,503	54,874	74,894
October ..	8,226	5,623	20,322	341	1,638	10,900	8,567	13,324	46,249	68,140
November ..	10,787	4,675	21,613	571	1,473	11,605	11,358	10,384	51,629	73,371
December ..	10,549	4,241	17,651	233	1,450	8,884	10,782	10,481	41,932	63,195
January(d) ..	9,441	4,241	18,432	615	759	9,559	10,056	9,975	43,402	63,433
February(d) ..	10,492	4,259	16,500	221	930	7,734	10,713	9,268	39,149	59,130
March(d) ..	13,331	4,719	23,012	676	1,744	11,075	14,007	11,392	55,132	80,531
April ..	10,066	5,007	19,207	547	1,705	9,214	10,613	11,279	46,071	67,963
May ..	10,215	4,671	20,701	382	1,048	9,764	10,597	11,383	49,587	71,567
June ..	9,322	4,594	18,623	384	1,083	8,815	9,706	9,993	43,672	63,371
1956-57 p—										
July ..	9,236	4,385	16,413	385	1,459	7,715	9,621	8,847	38,902	57,370
August ..	10,031	6,516	23,932	404	1,905	11,690	10,435	12,791	55,576	78,802
September ..	8,996	4,177	14,008	548	1,250	7,257	9,544	9,052	35,024	53,620
October ..	10,095	4,279	15,085	426	1,038	8,552	10,521	9,046	37,521	57,088

Note.—Class II. consists entirely of goods "simply transformed", and Classes IV., V. and VII. entirely of goods "more elaborately transformed". Class III. is about equally divided between goods "simply" and "more elaborately" transformed.

(a) See note (c) page 18.

(b) See note (a) page 19.

(c) See note (g) page 18.

(d) Affected by industrial dispute.

For meaning of symbols p. r., —, see page 1.

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES.

(£A'000 f.o.b. Port of Shipment.)

Period.	Meats	Butter.	Wheat and Flour.	Fresh Fruits.	Dried Fruits.	Sugar and Sugar Syrups.	Hides and Skins.	Wool.	Lead.	Total Exports of Merchan- dise.
Monthly Average—										
1936-37.. ..	861	734	2,029	165	172	309	609	5,209	402	12,316
1937-38.. ..	1,021	898	2,245	171	224	336	516	3,915	409	11,719
1938-39.. ..	982	1,074	1,106	169	239	348	342	3,561	356	10,128
1949-50.. ..	(a)2,854	2,056	7,376	328	241	1,185	1,263	26,096	1,416	50,971
1950-51.. ..	2,533	1,539	8,921	477	389	1,240	2,272	52,779	1,796	81,591
1951-52.. ..	2,957	383	7,359	572	472	586	1,428	26,953	2,156	55,437
1952-53.. ..	5,481	1,675	7,449	791	669	1,805	1,677	33,576	2,116	70,708
1953-54.. ..	4,816	1,338	5,053	774	617	2,639	1,620	34,202	2,004	67,655
1954-55.. ..	5,290	2,049	5,461	731	703	2,604	1,642	29,426	2,070	63,170
1955-56.. ..	r5,039	r2,414	r5,513	r761	650	r2,070	1,747	r28,127	r2,106	r64,236
Monthly Total—										
1954-55—										
October	6,081	1,945	5,303	143	845	2,983	1,817	39,281	2,181	72,656
November	4,822	1,567	4,338	116	118	1,560	1,069	25,726	1,942	49,926
December	8,340	4,193	7,232	114	400	3,546	2,146	43,569	2,455	84,154
January	5,592	3,345	4,944	36	265	2,812	1,382	30,442	1,885	63,618
February	4,921	3,194	8,207	239	363	3,190	1,778	32,359	1,368	67,251
March	3,845	1,722	6,250	1,008	283	1,364	1,902	40,104	3,122	77,007
April	3,388	1,128	5,220	2,468	510	2,247	1,139	28,609	1,152	56,904
May	4,568	2,658	5,701	2,448	944	1,619	1,936	29,030	1,494	66,840
June	3,868	2,994	5,806	1,617	1,334	919	1,396	32,743	2,496	68,984
1955-56—										
July	4,605	1,504	4,473	588	1,482	1,183	1,637	26,899	2,201	60,885
August	5,590	1,376	5,653	308	1,004	2,111	2,259	11,262	2,376	48,732
September	4,863	1,068	4,569	122	958	3,267	1,988	17,512	2,896	51,434
October	6,478	3,399	4,582	143	211	2,267	1,668	30,488	1,799	65,616
November	8,328	3,689	5,519	195	125	r3,695	1,943	37,941	r2,666	r77,947
December	r7,777	r4,232	3,823	55	534	1,608	2,132	r37,007	2,034	r72,422
January(b)	5,085	3,224	4,906	19	131	1,471	1,556	23,395	1,379	r55,449
February(b)	995	106	2,754	50	14	1,033	456	8,231	283	r19,985
March(b)	r3,601	r3,203	8,387	713	79	1,955	2,211	r40,136	2,147	r77,537
April	r4,594	r2,416	5,848	1,987	972	r2,886	1,713	r34,622	2,651	r678,031
May	r4,501	2,345	7,041	r3,510	1,258	2,510	2,008	r40,134	r2,858	r689,937
June	4,045	r2,406	r8,596	1,450	1,036	856	1,375	29,902	1,659	r672,861
1956-57 p—										
July	r3,607	r1,624	7,334	316	553	715	1,404	r27,696	r1,801	r61,094
August	r4,181	2,196	7,599	241	533	2,875	1,988	r16,196	3,322	r57,841
September	r4,620	1,824	8,141	106	588	3,779	r1,821	r21,450	2,078	r60,753
October	4,427	3,740	8,759	335	444	4,505	2,229	45,404	4,182	95,979

(a) Figures for 1936-37 to 1938-39 include soups (1949-50 monthly average exports £59,500).
dispute.

(b) Affected by industrial

For meaning of symbols p, r, —, see page 1.

EXPORT PRICE INDEXES.

These index numbers are compiled from the prices of 20 commodities which normally constitute about 80 per cent. of all exports. The index numbers show price changes in the predominant market or markets for each commodity.

SIMPLE AGGREGATIVE INDEX : FIXED WEIGHTS.

In this index the weights are the average annual exports of each commodity (production in the case of gold) during the three years 1933-34 to 1935-36.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	Wool.	Wheat.	Butter.	Metals. (a)	Meats. (b)	Sugar.	Dried Fruits. (c)	Tallow.	Hides. (d)	Gold. (e)	All Groups.	
											Excl. Gold.	Incl. Gold.
Percentage Distribution of Base Aggregate	(f)	(g)										
	45.63	17.06	11.36	6.83	6.63	2.40	1.81	0.64	0.66	6.98	..	100.00
	49.05	18.34	12.21	7.34	7.13	2.58	1.94	0.69	0.72	..	100.00	..
1936-37 ..	122	123	92	120	98	104	103	122	113	99	116	115
1937-38 ..	99	111	107	96	106	92	103	100	100	98	102	102
1938-39 ..	79	66	101	84	96	104	94	78	87	103	82	83
1949-50 ..	473	400	250	421	196	369	176	400	479	164	399	383
1950-51 ..	999	432	271	689	209	410	226	356	752	176	690	654
1951-52 ..	564	436	291	811	263	464	302	451	486	184	495	473
1952-53 ..	616	445	313	504	314	501	297	358	369	186	505	483
1953-54 ..	615	411	325	450	338	479	287	321	336	179	496	474
1954-55 ..	538	357	313	511	344	445	267	349	218	178	450	431
1955-56 ..	464	p324	320	562	p355	451	286	353	238	178	p414	p397
1954-55—												
October ..	536	356	313	524	340	468	260	350	216	178	450	431
November ..	513	358	313	518	340	468	261	350	204	179	439	421
December ..	532	359	313	512	384	468	263	350	197	178	451	432
January ..	520	360	313	516	367	430	266	350	200	178	444	425
February ..	528	356	313	522	346	430	267	350	200	178	446	427
March ..	528	356	313	523	329	430	270	350	212	178	446	426
April ..	520	354	313	525	324	434	271	350	223	178	441	422
May ..	520	354	313	520	332	434	268	345	216	178	441	422
June ..	505	355	313	528	343	434	279	342	212	178	435	417
1955-56—												
July ..	(h) 505	352	313	538	359	468	266	342	225	178	437	419
August ..	453	351	313	538	365	468	266	341	234	178	411	395
September ..	437	334	313	545	398	468	278	344	235	178	404	388
October ..	437	329	337	543	408	454	282	351	238	178	406	390
November ..	437	323	364	549	383	454	284	366	227	178	407	391
December ..	453	315	368	575	p364	454	283	365	232	178	p414	p398
January ..	460	313	361	590	p348	441	285	356	239	178	p416	p400
February ..	460	311	328	592	p331	441	288	364	240	178	p411	p395
March ..	453	312	304	592	p322	441	292	364	247	178	p404	p388
April ..	468	310	273	579	p317	441	293	354	248	178	p406	p390
May ..	498	p316	265	556	p324	441	302	344	241	178	p420	p403
June ..	(h) 505	p317	299	548	p335	441	317	347	252	178	p428	p411
1956-57—												
July ..	490	p323	272	549	p343	p438	p320	p355	250	178	p419	p403
August ..	520	p326	261	558	p347	p438	p319	p352	244	178	p434	p416
September ..	r566	p326	284	562	pr348	p438	p319	p360	243	178	pr460	pr440
October ..	p551	p330	260	559	p349	p444	p319	p354	245	178	p450	p431

(a) Silver, copper, tin, zinc, lead. (b) Beef, lamb, mutton, pork. Guaranteed minimum prices are used when operative.
(c) Sultanas, lexias, currants. (d) Cattle hides, calf skins. (e) Where Australian gold has been sold on the overseas premium
markets such price has been used in the index. (f) For all Groups (including Gold)—applicable from 1936-37. (g) For
all Groups (excluding Gold)—applicable from 1936-37. (h) Nominal.

For meaning of symbols p, r, see page 1.

EXPORT PRICE INDEXES—continued.

RECENT TRENDS—EXPORT PRICE INDEX—WOOL AND "OTHER GROUPS".

Reference to the group indexes in the table on page 22 hereof shows the great fluctuations and the wide dispersion of prices of export commodities in recent years. In particular, very great movements upwards and downwards have occurred in the price of wool. Since wool is a predominant export (and comprises 46 per cent. of the Base Aggregate of the index) fluctuations in wool prices obscure the effects which movements in prices of the other components have on the All Groups index. For purposes of comparison they are shown separately below.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	1949-50.			1950-51.			1951-52.			1952-53.		
	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.
July ..	a339	277	305	a592	333	451	a717	400	544	a566	381	465
August ..	a347	284	313	864	340	579	551	400	468	a566	380	465
September ..	339	292	314	890	355	599	498	400	445	551	379	457
October ..	392	305	345	890	360	602	686	403	532	588	370	469
November ..	419	305	357	965	366	639	603	398	492	588	368	469
December ..	456	307	375	973	366	643	581	403	484	618	376	486
January ..	562	310	425	1,252	368	771	566	402	477	618	376	486
February ..	536	315	416	1,339	369	811	520	402	456	626	371	487
March ..	524	316	411	1,437	377	860	460	400	427	656	369	500
April ..	a554	324	429	1,094	384	708	475	397	432	671	363	503
May ..	611	328	457	973	385	653	543	385	457	701	361	516
June ..	592	331	450	717	383	535	566	376	463	641	363	490
Average of Year	473	308	383	999	365	654	564	397	473	616	371	483

Period	1953-54.			1954-55.			1955-56.			1956-57		
	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.
July ..	a641	369	493	a622	338	468	a505	347	419	490	p329	p403
August ..	a634	367	488	566	338	442	453	347	395	520	p329	p416
September ..	626	365	484	566	339	442	437	347	388	r566	pr335	pr440
October ..	634	363	486	536	344	431	437	351	390	p551	p331	p431
November ..	634	360	485	513	343	421	437	352	391			
December ..	611	358	473	532	348	432	453	p352	p398			
January ..	603	354	468	520	345	425	460	p349	p400			
February ..	581	350	455	528	342	427	460	p340	p395			
March ..	581	351	456	528	341	426	453	p334	p388			
April ..	a596	348	461	520	340	422	468	p325	p390			
May ..	618	346	470	520	340	422	498	p324	p403			
June ..	622	346	472	505	343	417	a505	p332	p411			
Average of Year	615	356	474	538	342	431	464	p342	p397			

(a) Nominal.

NOTE.—The index numbers in the two preceding tables indicate satisfactorily the trends of export prices, but take no account of the relative quantities actually sold at the different prices ruling during each month. The impact of the price movements on current sales is indicated more directly by the index numbers below. In computing these the "quantity multipliers" are the quantities actually exported in the months (or periods) to which the index numbers relate. The index numbers for the most recent available month are :—

All Groups.	Month of October.		Four months ended Octo ^r .er.	
	1955.	1956.	1955.	1956.
Excluding Wool ..	100	98	100	98
Including Wool ..	100	116	100	111

For meaning of symbols p, r, see page 1.

WHOLESALE PRICE (BASIC MATERIALS AND FOODSTUFFS) INDEX.

Commodities in this index are priced in their primary or basic form wherever possible. The prices used have, in the main, been obtained directly from manufacturers and merchants. With a few important exceptions they are from Melbourne sources. The weighting system adopted is based on estimates of the average annual consumption of the commodities in Australia during the years 1928-29 to 1934-35 inclusive.

(Base of each Group : Average of three years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	Basic Materials.							Food-stuffs and Tobacco. ()	Basic Materials & Foodstuffs.		
	Metals and Coal. (a)	Oils, Fats and Waxes.	Textiles.	Chemicals.	Rubber and Hides.	Building Materials.	Total.		Goods principally Imported (b)	Goods principally Home Produced. (c)	Total All Groups. (c)
1936-37 ..	96	99	118	99	111	99	99	98	99	98	99
1937-38 ..	101	101	100	100	97	104	102	102	102	101	101
1938-39 ..	103	100	82	101	92	97	99	101	99	100	100
1949-50 ..	214	184	434	187	143	225	214	196	223	196	204
1950-51 ..	256	196	641	242	292	268	264	229	256	240	244
1951-52 ..	343	220	577	314	298	370	321	276	288	300	297
1952-53 ..	392	234	607	350	224	404	350	293	292	331	319
1953-54 ..	388	222	566	323	191	363	332	308	271	339	319
1954-55 ..	391	214	510	314	246	372	330	315	277	340	322
1955-56 ..	404	220	456	317	328	415	345	325	292	352	334
1954-55—											
October ..	385	211	505	313	240	365	325	311	269	338	317
November..	393	211	491	314	240	365	327	312	277	336	319
December..	393	212	507	315	225	365	328	311	277	336	319
January ..	394	215	501	315	237	365	329	310	279	336	319
February ..	395	215	505	315	257	373	332	315	281	340	323
March ..	396	214	507	315	264	381	334	319	282	345	326
April ..	397	214	496	315	271	387	335	315	283	342	324
May ..	396	214	497	315	294	389	337	319	283	345	327
June ..	396	214	485	315	306	398	338	323	287	348	330
1955-56—											
July ..	397	214	486	315	307	398	338	329	281	355	333
August ..	397	215	452	315	323	398	337	328	282	353	332
September	405	215	441	315	333	398	340	327	290	351	333
October ..	405	215	441	315	336	398	340	324	289	350	332
November..	404	216	437	317	347	407	342	320	291	346	330
December ..	404	216	447	317	342	407	342	319	291	346	329
January ..	405	216	453	317	330	407	343	320	288	348	330
February ..	405	216	453	317	325	408	343	318	288	346	329
March ..	405	230	446	317	323	425	350	328	299	354	338
April ..	403	230	456	318	326	442	353	328	303	355	339
May ..	410	231	477	317	322	444	357	333	304	361	344
June ..	409	231	482	318	326	444	357	328	299	358	341
1956-57—											
July ..	410	232	461	344	314	444	358	330	301	360	343
August ..	409	240	481	344	315	445	362	p329	p303	p361	p344
September..	411	241	513	344	312	467	368	p329	p309	p363	p347
October ..	p410	241	p503	344	306	467	p367	p325	p310	p359	p344

(a) Special purpose index for the "Metals and Coal" group excluding coal and briquettes was 427 for September and 424 for October, 1956. (b) Represents only such imported commodities as are included in the wholesale price index and does not measure changes in prices of all imports. (c) NOTE.—The indexes for "Foodstuffs and Tobacco", "Goods Principally Home Produced" and "Total All Groups" have been reconstructed as from the base period by excluding potatoes and onions. For the months of September and October, 1956 respectively indexes comparable with those previously published including potatoes and onions were Foodstuffs and Tobacco 378, and 374; Goods Principally Home Produced, 401 and 396; Total All Groups, 373 and 371.

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES : VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

The items priced and the levels at which they are priced in these indexes vary widely according to the intended purposes of the indexes of the respective countries. For the United Kingdom and France the current indexes are not available on a pre-war base.

(Base : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	Australia. (e)	New Zealand.	South Africa.	Canada.	United States of America. (a)	Sweden.	United Kingdom		France.	India.
							(b)	(c)		
1936-37 ..	99	96	97	101	104	98	Base : 30th June, 1949 = 100.		Base : 1949 = 100.	Base : 1938-39 (d) = 100.
1937-38 ..	101	102	103	104	101	103				
1938-39 ..	100	102	100	95	95	99				
1951-52 ..	297	243	252	229	213	285				
1952-53 ..	319	252	269	216	209	278	175	128	145	414
1953-54 ..	319	248	270	214	209	268	152	126	141	386
1954-55 ..	322	249	274	211	208	272	143	125	137	397
1955-56 ..	334	253	283	217	212	290	147	127	135	365
1955-56—							155	133	139	373
Feb. ..	329	252	284	217	213	293	155	134	143	378
March ..	338	254	283	218	213	295	156	135	140	387
April ..	339	256	283	219	215	296	155	135	141	391
May ..	344	257	282	220	216	295	156	135	143	390
June ..	341	258	281	221	216	298	155	135	141	398
1956-57—										
July ..	343	262	281	221	216	294	154	136	140	409
Aug. ..	p 344	265	282	222	217		156	136	142	419
Sept. ..	p 347	266	284		218		157	136	142	
Oct. ..	p 344	267			218		155	136		

(a) Current series linked as at January, 1947 to former series to show movement prior to that date. (b) Basic materials (excluding fuel) used in non-food manufacturing industry. (c) All manufactured products other than fuel, food and tobacco. (d) Year ended August, 1939. (e) See note (c) page 24.

RETAIL PRICE INDEXES : VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

(Base : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100 (a).)

Period.	Australia. (d)		New Zealand.	South Africa.	Canada.	United States of America.	United Kingdom.
1936-37 ..	97.3		96	97	98	100	Base : 17th June, 1947 = 100 (b)
1937-38 ..	99.8		101	101	102	101	
1938-39 ..	102.9		103	102	100	99	
1951-52 ..	233.7		176	182	186	186	
1952-53 ..	255.0		185	194	184	189	(c) 131
1953-54 ..	262.2		195	199	184	190	139
1954-55 ..	264.4		201	204	185	190	140
1955-56 ..	{ A 274.2 B 277.4		206	209	186	190	146
1955-56—							154
January ..	{ A 274.8 B 278.0		{ 206 208 209 210	208	186	190	153
February ..				209	185	190	(c) 153
March ..				209	185	190	155
April ..				210	185	190	158
May ..	{ 279.7 285.1		{ 208 210	210	185	191	157
June ..				211	187	192	157
1956-57—							
July ..	{ 283.2 294.6		{ 213 210 211	212	188	194	156
August ..				210	189	193	157
September ..				211	189	194	157

(a) For bases of series for the United Kingdom, see notes (b) and (c). (b) New series on base 17th June, 1947 = 100 ; cannot be linked to former series. (c) New series linked to former series. (d) Indexes in Columns "A" exclude, and those in Columns "B" include, the price movement of potatoes and onions.

For meaning of symbols p, —, see page 1.

"C" SERIES RETAIL PRICE INDEX AND WAGE-RATE INDEXES.

In the tables on this and the following page the index numbers have been converted arithmetically to the base average 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000 in order to facilitate comparisons with other data. The absolute index numbers differ, in consequence, from those appearing in other publications of the Bureau.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000.)

Period.			Retail Price Indexes : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities.					Weekly Wage-rate Indexes : Six States.				
			Food and Groceries. (a)	Rent of 4 and 5 roomed houses.	Clothing.	Miscel- laneous.	Food, &c., Rent, Clothing and Miscel- laneous (" C " Series). (a)	Nominal Rates, Adult Males.	" Real " Wage, Adult Males. (a)(b)			
1936-37	..	..	963	968	976	996	973	949	976	
1937-38	..	..	989	1,001	1,006	1,003	998	1,007	1,000	
1938-39	..	..	1,048	1,031	1,018	1,001	1,029	1,044	1,015	
1949-50	..	..	1,664	1,063	2,626	1,443	1,669	1,913	1,146	
1950-51	..	..	1,998	1,076	3,044	1,597	1,906	2,298	1,206	
1951-52	..	..	2,694	1,104	3,623	1,898	2,337	2,806	1,201	
1952-53	..	..	2,950	1,194	3,893	2,124	2,550	3,104	1,217	
1953-54	..	..	3,073	1,255	3,938	2,148	2,622	3,207	1,223	
1954-55	..	..	3,098	1,309	3,940	2,145	2,644	3,249	1,229	
1955-56	..	..	A 3,265 B 3,354	1,377	3,968	2,230	A 2,742 B 2,774	3,364	A 1,227 B 1,213	
1951-52—												
September	Quarter		2,444	1,091	3,463	1,787	2,191	2,629	1,200			
December	"		2,644	1,094	3,582	1,870	2,303	2,771	1,203			
March	"		2,751	1,105	3,658	1,905	2,366	2,878	1,216			
June	..	"	2,937	1,124	3,789	2,031	2,488	2,946	1,184			
1952-53—												
September	Quarter		2,966	1,156	3,808	2,103	2,524	3,054	1,210			
December	"		2,908	1,181	3,884	2,121	2,530	3,102	1,226			
March	"		2,943	1,212	3,912	2,134	2,558	3,110	1,216			
June	..	"	2,981	1,227	3,967	2,138	2,586	3,150	1,218			
1953-54—												
September	Quarter		3,073	1,235	3,946	2,141	2,618	3,195	1,220			
December	"		3,092	1,243	3,933	2,147	2,624	3,206	1,222			
March	"		3,070	1,255	3,946	2,157	2,624	3,213	1,224			
June	..	"	3,055	1,286	3,927	2,148	2,621	3,214	1,226			
1954-55—												
September	Quarter		3,037	1,301	3,924	2,145	2,618	3,213	1,227			
December	"		3,063	1,306	3,939	2,147	2,631	3,233	1,229			
March	"		3,124	1,310	3,934	2,132	2,649	3,269	1,234			
June	..	"	3,169	1,320	3,961	2,157	2,678	3,283	1,226			
1955-56—			A	B			A	B	A	B		
September	Quarter		3,215	3,265	1,330	3,965	2,169	2,700	2,719	3,299	1,222	1,213
December	"		3,239	3,308	1,337	3,971	2,218	2,721	2,746	3,345	1,229	1,218
March	"		3,262	3,348	1,415	3,965	2,227	2,748	2,780	3,371	1,227	1,213
June	..	"	3,343	3,495	1,425	3,971	2,305	2,797	2,851	3,439	1,230	1,206
1956-57—												
September	Quarter		3,394	3,712	1,436	3,985	2,369	2,832	2,946	3,485	1,230	1,183

(a) Indexes in Columns "A" exclude, and those in Columns "B" include, the price movement of potatoes and onions.
weekly wage rates for adult males divided by the "C" Series Retail Price index number.

(b) Index of nominal

WAGE RATES AND AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS.

(Adult Males.)

Particulars.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Six Capitals or Six States.
<i>1955 : September Quarter—</i>							
Nominal weekly wage rate(a) ..	3,379	3,265	3,154	3,174	3,391	3,373	3,299
Average Weekly Hours (a) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (b)	243/-	235/-	218/-	231/-	236/-	242/-	236/-
State " " " ..	(b) 243/-	(c) 240/-	(d) 227/-	(b) 231/-	(e) 252/5	(b) 242/-	..
<i>1955 : December Quarter—</i>							
Nominal weekly wage rate(a) ..	3,458	3,307	3,177	3,174	3,398	3,374	3,345
Average Weekly Hours (a) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (b)	243/-	235/-	218/-	231/-	236/-	242/-	236/-
State " " " ..	(c) 253/-	(c) 246/-	(f) 229/-	(b) 231/-	(e) 252/5	(b) 242/-	..
<i>1956 : March Quarter—</i>							
Nominal weekly wage rate (a) ..	3,489	3,339	3,195	3,175	3,413	3,418	3,371
Average Weekly Hours (a) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (b)	243/-	235/-	218/-	231/-	236/-	242/-	236/-
State " " " ..	(c) 255/-	(c) 251/-	(f) 229/-	(b) 231/-	(g) 253/8	(c) 259/-	..
<i>1956 : June Quarter—</i>							
Nominal weekly wage rate (a)	3,538	3,423	3,258	3,290	3,446	3,541	3,439
Average Weekly Hours (a) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (h)	253/-	245/-	228/-	241/-	246/-	252/-	246/-
State " " " ..	(c) 256/-	(c) 256/-	(i) 233/-	(h) 241/-	(i) 257/1	(c) 268/-	..
<i>1956 : September Quarter—</i>							
Nominal weekly wage rate (a)	3,588	3,465	3,336	3,291	3,493	3,551	3,485
Average Weekly Hours (a) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (h)	253/-	245/-	228/-	241/-	246/-	252/-	246/-
State " " " ..	(c) 263/-	(c) 263/-	(j) 237/-	(h) 241/-	(j) 261/6	(c) 272/-	..

(a) Base : Weighted Average, Six States Average 3 years ended June, 1939=1,000. (b) Automatic adjustments discontinued.
The rates shown came into operation from beginning of first pay-period commencing August, 1953. (c) Payable as from the beginning
of the first pay-period commencing in the second month of the quarter shown. (d) Payable as from 1st August, 1955. (e) Payable
as from 9th August, 1955. (f) Payable as from 24th October, 1955. (g) Payable as from 31st January, 1956. (h) Payable
as from first pay-period in June, 1956. (i) Payable as from 23rd April, 1956. (j) Payable as from 23rd July, 1956.

INTERIM RETAIL PRICE INDEX.

The list of items covered by the Interim Index is representative of a high proportion of expenditure of wage earner households. It is more comprehensive than that of the "C" Series Index and some of the principal food weights and group weights differ substantially from those used in the "C" Series Index. The weighting pattern and the list of component items in the "C" Series Index relate to the pre-war pattern of wage earner expenditure and consumption, whilst those of the Interim Index relate to the consumption pattern of 1950-53.

(Base of each Group : Year 1952-53 = 100.)

Period.	Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities.						
	Food.(a)		Clothing and Drapery.	Rent.	Other Items.	Total All Groups.(a)	
	A	B				A	B
Year ended June—							
1953	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1954	102.8	103.7	101.6	105.0	100.9	102.2	102.5
1955	104.8	104.6	102.4	109.6	101.4	103.7	103.6
1956	108.1	110.6	103.3	115.5	106.4	107.0	108.0
Quarter ended—							
1954—September ..	103.6	103.0	101.6	108.9	101.2	102.9	102.7
December ..	104.3	103.7	102.3	109.3	101.2	103.4	103.2
1955—March ..	105.3	105.3	102.4	109.7	101.2	103.8	103.8
June ..	106.0	106.4	103.3	110.5	101.9	104.5	104.7
September ..	106.7	108.2	103.3	111.4	102.8	105.1	105.7
December ..	107.0	109.0	103.4	112.0	106.2	106.3	107.0
1956—March ..	108.2	110.6	103.3	118.8	106.7	107.4	108.3
June ..	110.7	114.5	103.4	119.7	110.1	109.4	110.8
September ..	111.9	119.6	103.8	120.6	115.6	111.5	114.4

(a) The index in Column "A" excludes, and that in Column "B" includes, potatoes and onions.

FARM PRODUCTION PRICE INDEXES.

The annual index numbers shown in the following table relate to average "prices" of farm products realized in the principal markets of Australia. The "price" data used are average unit values for the total quantities of the relevant commodities produced or marketed in each year and the index numbers therefore measure both the effects of changes in prices (as such) and of variations in the quality, type, usage, etc., of products marketed. The index numbers for any year relate to the average values of farm products produced or marketed in that year, irrespective of the periods in which payment is received by producers.

The index numbers shown below are the Revised Series (December, 1952) in which average quantities of each product marketed in the period 1946-47 to 1950-51 have been used as fixed weights.

The preliminary index numbers for 1955-56 are based mainly on the recorded or estimated movement in average values for the major farm products. They will be reviewed from time to time as further "price" data become available.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Year.	Agriculture.	Pastoral.	Farmyard and Dairying.	All Farming.	Wool (Shorn and Dead).	Products Other than Wool.
1936-37	114	115	93	109	126	104
1937-38	98	98	102	99	95	100
1938-39	88	87	105	92	79	96
1947-48	267	263	183	247	301	230
1948-49	234	313	197	260	366	225
1949-50	272	396	228	316	483	261
1950-51	291	818	258	505	1,098	308
1951-52	355	501	332	410	552	363
1952-53	364	531	387	440	623	379
1953-54	324	534	395	429	621	365
1954-55	316	489	371	401	540	355
1955-56	322	442	385	388	468	362

SHARE PRICE INDEXES.

In comparing movements in the two sets of index numbers on this page, attention should be paid to differences in the methods by which they have been constructed, and in the nature of the companies and the types of shares included in each index. These are outlined in the footnotes to the table.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000.)

Period.	New South Wales : Ordinary Shares.(a)						Queensland : Ordinary Shares.(b)		
	23 Manufacturing and Distributing Companies.	10 Retail Companies.	4 Pastoral and Finance Companies.	4 Insurance Companies.	75 Companies (including 34 Miscellaneous).	34 Active shares included in foregoing. (c)	12 Industrials.	12 Financial and Trading.	24 Total of foregoing.
1936-37	989	1,059	1,106	1,052	1,022	1,026	1,006	1,000	1,003
1937-38	1,012	1,008	1,053	983	1,009	1,011	1,014	1,011	1,013
1938-39	999	933	841	965	969	963	980	989	984
1951-52	2,040	1,658	1,606	2,625	1,662	1,537	1,838	1,402	1,638
1952-53	1,733	1,376	1,337	2,059	1,398	1,335	1,494	1,186	1,353
1953-54	1,784	1,534	1,385	2,217	1,475	1,443	1,658	1,302	1,495
1954-55	1,943	1,885	1,555	2,184	1,626	1,598	1,695	1,434	1,575
1955-56	2,038	2,356	1,751	2,142	1,726	1,649	1,726	1,475	1,612
1954-55—									
October	1,907	1,832	1,491	2,196	1,593	1,554	1,697	1,430	1,575
November	1,887	1,825	1,446	2,159	1,577	1,545	1,668	1,423	1,556
December	1,878	1,842	1,485	2,120	1,578	1,560	1,672	1,445	1,568
January	1,925	1,853	1,541	2,162	1,615	1,600	1,675	1,463	1,578
February	1,958	1,874	1,553	2,199	1,640	1,625	1,677	1,481	1,587
March	1,964	1,940	1,553	2,206	1,651	1,629	1,678	1,443	1,570
April	1,960	1,973	1,544	2,188	1,655	1,632	1,684	1,415	1,560
May	2,018	2,005	1,563	2,160	1,682	1,647	1,710	1,410	1,572
June	2,047	2,147	1,699	2,157	1,737	1,666	1,739	1,463	1,612
1955-56—									
July	2,110	2,329	1,855	2,172	1,798	1,731	1,755	1,494	1,635
August	2,117	2,267	1,813	2,223	1,789	1,719	1,809	1,499	1,674
September	2,074	2,181	1,771	2,163	1,752	1,687	1,721	1,494	1,617
October	2,082	2,160	1,808	2,157	1,753	1,681	1,694	1,468	1,590
November	2,044	2,147	1,768	2,133	1,727	1,648	1,699	1,473	1,596
December	2,039	2,189	1,780	2,147	1,734	1,655	1,701	1,477	1,598
January	2,059	2,235	1,782	2,169	1,746	1,669	1,736	1,489	1,622
February	2,043	2,230	1,780	2,159	1,735	1,659	1,746	1,469	1,619
March	2,006	2,169	1,729	2,079	1,700	1,609	1,740	1,480	1,620
April	1,995	2,153	1,679	2,089	1,688	1,599	1,740	1,473	1,618
May	1,972	2,061	1,639	2,098	1,663	1,583	1,709	1,457	1,594
June	1,918	2,010	1,613	2,112	1,632	1,551	1,668	1,428	1,559
1956-57—									
July	1,909	1,973	1,668	2,140	1,626	1,556	1,639	1,431	1,570
August	1,944	2,002	1,718	2,268	1,657	1,608	1,699	1,426	1,574
September	1,997	2,004	1,740	2,400	1,689	1,639	1,704	1,447	1,586
October	2,034	2,006	1,797	2,468	1,702	1,652	1,700	1,474	1,597

(a) Compiled by the New South Wales Government Statistician; converted from original base, par values. The index numbers relate to the prices of ordinary shares on the Sydney Stock Exchange of principal companies (excluding banks) whose business in New South Wales is extensive. The prices of individual shares are unweighted and each group average is the mean of the average monthly prices per £1 of paid-up capital. Adjustments are made for changes in the capital structure of the companies. Minor revisions were made in the composition of the index in August, 1956.

(b) Compiled by the Queensland Bureau of Industry. The index numbers are based on the prices of the ordinary shares of 21 representative Queensland companies, and the preference shares of three companies whose ordinary shares are inactive. The index numbers represent unweighted averages. Mean monthly values are used. Recomputed from original base, April, 1928.

(c) These shares relate to leading companies and do not include bank shares or mining shares.

COMPARISON OF PRICE INDEXES.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	Export Prices.				Wholesale Prices.				Retail Prices.		
	Wool.	All Groups.			Basic Materials.	Basic Materials and Foodstuffs.			Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities.		
		Excluding Wool.	Excluding Gold.	Total.		Goods Principally Imported. (a)	Goods Principally Home-produced. (e)	All Groups. (e)	"C" Series Index.(b)		Interim Index.(c)
1936-37 ..	122	108	116	115	99	99	98	99	97.3	Base : 1952-53 = 100	
1937-38 ..	99	105	102	102	102	102	101	101	99.8	(Arithmetically converted for comparison.)	
1938-39 ..	79	87	82	83	99	99	100	100	102.9		
1948-49 ..	365	305	348	332	188	201	172	180	152.8		
1949-50 ..	473	308	399	383	214	223	196	204	166.9	74.8	74.9
1950-51 ..	999	365	690	654	264	256	240	244	190.6		
1951-52 ..	564	397	495	473	321	288	300	297	233.7			91.7	91.4
1952-53 ..	616	371	505	483	350	292	331	319	255.0	100.0	100.0
1953-54 ..	615	356	496	474	332	271	339	319	262.2	102.8	102.5
1954-55 ..	538	342	450	431	330	277	340	322	264.4	103.7	103.6
1955-56 ..	464	p342	p414	p397	345	292	352	334	(f)	(f)	(f)
1954-55—											
October ..	536	344	450	431	325	269	338	317	263.1	103.2	103.2
November	513	343	439	421	327	277	336	319			
December	532	348	451	432	328	277	336	319			
January ..	520	345	444	425	329	279	336	319	264.9	103.9	103.8
February..	528	342	446	427	332	281	340	323			
March ..	528	341	446	426	334	282	345	326			
April ..	520	340	441	422	335	283	342	324	267.8	105.0	104.7
May ..	520	340	441	422	337	283	345	327			
June ..	505	343	435	417	338	287	348	330			
1955-56—											
July ..	(d)505	347	437	419	338	281	355	333	(f)	(f)	(f)
August ..	453	347	411	395	337	282	353	332			
September	437	347	404	388	340	290	351	333			
October ..	437	351	406	390	340	289	350	332	(f)	(f)	(f)
November	437	352	407	391	342	291	346	330			
December	453	p352	p414	p398	342	291	346	329			
January ..	460	p349	p416	p400	343	288	348	330	(f)	(f)	(f)
February..	460	p340	p411	p395	343	288	346	329			
March ..	453	p334	p404	p388	350	299	354	338			
April ..	468	p325	p406	p390	353	303	355	339	(f)	(f)	(f)
May ..	498	p324	p420	p403	357	304	361	344			
June ..	(d)505	p332	p428	p411	357	299	358	341			
1956-57—											
July ..	490	p329	p419	p403	358	301	360	343	(f)	(f)	(f)
August ..	520	p329	p434	p416	362	p303	p361	p344			
September	566	pr335	pr460	pr440	368	p309	p363	p347			
October ..	p551	p331	p450	p431	p367	p310	p359	p344			

(a) Represents only such imported commodities as are included in the wholesale price index and does not measure changes in prices of all imports.
 (b) Covers Food and Groceries, House Rent, Clothing and Miscellaneous Items. (c) See note at head of page 28. (d) Nominal. (e) See note (c) page 24. (f) For indexes for these periods see pages 26 and 28 and Statistical Bulletin No. 453.

For meaning of symbols p, r, see page 1.

BUILDING PERMITS : SIX CAPITAL CITIES AND SUBURBS.

(As granted by local government authorities. Excludes government buildings except as indicated in note (a), page 33.)

Period.	New Dwellings.		Other New Buildings.		Total New Buildings.		Alterations and Additions.	Total.
	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.	Value.	Value.
Monthly Average—		£'000.		£'000.		£'000.	£'000.	£'000.
1936-37(a) ..	1,122	1,104	154	474	1,276	1,578	408	1,986
1937-38(a) ..	1,394	1,413	147	472	1,541	1,885	422	2,307
1938-39(a) ..	1,463	1,509	137	424	1,600	1,933	420	2,353
1948-49(b) ..	2,621	4,457	110	440	2,731	4,897	680	5,577
1949-50 ..	3,045	5,770	113	460	3,158	6,230	899	7,129
1950-51 ..	3,558	7,857	151	1,062	3,709	8,919	1,507	10,426
1951-52 ..	2,736	6,703	165	1,270	2,901	7,973	1,727	9,700
1952-53 ..	2,506	6,472	303	1,744	2,809	8,216	1,829	10,045
1953-54 ..	2,663	7,747	328	2,538	2,991	10,285	2,071	12,356
1954-55(c) ..	3,673	11,244	378	4,083	4,051	15,327	2,593	17,920
1955-56 ..	r 3,362	r 11,043	339	5,040	r 3,701	r 16,083	2,814	r 18,897
Monthly Total—								
1954-55—								
August ..	4,108	12,219	452	2,851	4,560	15,070	2,576	17,646
September ..	4,464	13,238	426	3,821	4,890	17,059	3,019	20,078
October ..	3,847	11,550	374	2,821	4,221	14,371	2,424	16,795
November ..	3,797	11,359	388	6,381	4,185	17,740	2,755	20,495
December ..	3,225	9,699	274	2,578	3,499	12,277	1,897	14,174
January ..	2,706	8,284	269	3,709	2,975	11,993	1,983	13,976
February ..	3,595	10,907	387	4,273	3,982	15,180	2,219	17,399
March ..	3,670	12,064	354	4,235	4,024	16,299	2,608	18,907
April ..	3,212	10,137	339	4,430	3,551	14,567	2,561	17,128
May ..	3,725	11,889	451	3,566	4,176	15,455	3,289	18,744
June ..	3,969	12,577	408	5,731	4,377	18,308	3,000	21,308
1955-56—								
July ..	3,637	11,394	364	4,143	4,001	15,537	2,701	18,238
August ..	3,904	12,253	389	7,159	4,293	19,412	3,166	22,578
September ..	3,983	12,533	414	4,341	4,397	16,874	2,991	19,865
October ..	3,825	12,120	355	3,604	4,180	15,724	2,473	18,197
November ..	3,758	12,112	324	5,098	4,082	17,210	2,498	19,708
December ..	2,678	8,526	294	5,352	2,972	13,878	2,352	16,230
January ..	r 2,647	r 9,010	242	3,380	r 2,889	r 12,390	r 2,284	14,674
February ..	r 3,171	r 10,404	332	5,455	r 3,503	r 15,859	r 2,873	18,732
March ..	r 3,311	r 11,007	357	6,134	r 3,668	r 17,141	r 3,191	20,332
April ..	r 2,815	r 10,405	297	4,415	r 3,112	r 14,820	r 2,946	17,766
May ..	r 3,567	r 11,757	384	7,201	r 3,951	r 18,958	r 3,424	22,382
June ..	r 3,244	r 10,995	317	4,208	r 3,561	r 15,203	r 2,940	18,143
1956-57—								
July ..	r 3,089	r 10,262	376	5,559	r 3,465	r 15,821	r 2,993	18,814
August ..	r 3,187	r 10,818	328	4,057	r 3,515	r 14,875	r 2,899	17,774
September ..	2,833	9,517	292	3,785	3,125	13,302	2,314	15,616

(a) Excludes suburbs of Hobart. (b) From July, 1947, includes additional areas in the metropolitan area of Melbourne. For details see September, 1954, issue of this publication. (c) From July, 1954, includes additional areas in the metropolitan areas of Sydney, Melbourne and Hobart. For details see September, 1954, issue of this publication.

NOTE.—Building controls under National Security (Building Control) Regulations operated from 5th December, 1940, becoming most stringent in 1942, when consent was required for all building other than alterations and additions costing less than £25. These controls were progressively relaxed after 1945 and have now ceased to exist in all States. For more detailed notes see earlier issues of this publication.

The "value of permits" shown above relates to the value of building permits issued by local government authorities and not to approvals granted under the Regulations.

For meaning of symbols r, —, see page 1.

BUILDING OPERATIONS : METROPOLITAN AND PROVINCIAL.

(Figures for government buildings relate to contracts let or day-labour work commenced. Figures for private buildings relate only to permits issued by local government authorities. Alterations and additions are included.)

(£'000.)

Period.	Australia.			New South Wales			Victoria.		
	Government.	Private.(a)		Government. (b)	Private.		Government.	Private.	
	Common-wealth and State.	Six Capital Cities and Suburbs.	Other recorded areas.	Common-wealth and State.	Sydney Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. See Note A.	Common-wealth and State.	Melbourne Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. See Note B.
Monthly Average—									
1936-37 ..	n.a.	(c)1,986	(d)627	n.a.	848	416	n.a.	667	62
1937-38 ..	n.a.	(c)2,307	(d)764	n.a.	1,093	506	n.a.	669	78
1938-39 ..	408	(c)2,353	(d)755	187	1,111	495	107	702	63
1950-51 ..	4,348	e 10,426	(f)8,568	1,964	3,610	(g)4,519	1,428	(e)3,187	(h)2,031
1951-52 ..	3,631	9,700	7,877	1,603	2,679	3,717	960	2,831	1,947
1952-53 ..	2,772	10,045	7,671	923	2,799	3,542	1,129	2,906	1,931
1953-54 ..	(i) 4,619	12,356	9,693	1,912	3,553	4,622	1,653	3,890	2,297
1954-55 ..	5,936	j 17,920	(j)8,379	2,461	(k)6,340	(k)3,550	1,779	(k)5,598	(k)1,812
1955-56 ..	r 5,845	r 18,897	r 9,033	2,399	r 6,736	r 3,364	1,559	6,174	2,239
1954-55—									
September Qtr.	4,773	j 18,709	(j)8,863	1,812	(k)6,419	(k)3,821	1,485	(k)5,643	(k)2,062
December ..	5,845	17,154	8,240	2,098	6,350	3,582	1,998	5,334	1,774
March ..	5,873	16,761	7,712	2,451	5,393	3,022	1,478	5,426	1,635
June ..	7,255	19,060	8,704	3,482	7,199	3,775	2,155	5,988	1,777
1955-56—									
September ..	r 6,681	20,227	10,085	2,767	7,273	3,653	1,146	6,495	3,224
December ..	6,415	18,045	8,921	2,681	5,899	3,292	2,164	5,899	1,873
March ..	4,398	17,912	7,892	1,156	6,778	3,121	1,500	5,699	1,939
June ..	5,885	19,431	9,239	2,991	7,016	3,394	1,427	6,604	1,919
1956-57—									
September ..	5,724	17,401	8,487	2,923	6,112	3,198	1,401	5,996	1,848
Monthly Total—									
1955-56—									
December ..	6,554	16,230	n.a.	3,097	5,823	3,046	2,215	5,367	1,442
January ..	4,146	14,674	n.a.	794	5,775	2,917	858	4,096	1,513
February ..	4,512	18,732	n.a.	1,360	7,436	3,091	1,699	6,106	2,225
March ..	4,534	20,332	n.a.	1,313	7,123	3,356	1,944	6,896	2,081
April ..	5,224	17,766	n.a.	2,613	6,028	3,234	1,398	5,554	1,690
May ..	5,537	22,382	n.a.	2,599	8,281	3,926	1,502	8,390	1,883
June ..	6,893	18,143	n.a.	3,759	6,739	3,023	1,381	5,867	2,183
1956-57—									
July ..	4,685	18,814	n.a.	2,037	6,561	3,215	1,334	7,090	1,853
August ..	3,930	17,774	n.a.	r 1,450	6,281	3,234	1,049	5,710	1,917
September ..	8,555	15,616	n.a.	5,282	5,494	3,146	1,821	5,188	1,775
October ..			n.a.		5,989	3,086			

(a) See note (a) on page 33. (b) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (c) Excludes suburbs of Hobart. (d) Incomplete, excludes Western Australia. (e) From July, 1947, the metropolitan area of Melbourne includes some additional areas. For details see September, 1954, issue of this publication. (f) See A and B below and C and F, page 33. (g) See A below. (h) See B below. (i) See note (f), page 33. (j) See note (k), this page and note (g), page 33. (k) From July, 1954, the metropolitan area includes some additional areas previously included in "Other Recorded Areas". For details see September, 1954, issue of this publication.

NOTES.

A. Includes 129 Country Towns and seven Shires near Sydney to June quarter, 1947, thereafter all areas outside Sydney and suburbs.
B. Includes the Cities of Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, Geelong West, Horsham, Mildura, Newtown and Chilwell, Sale, Shepparton and Warrnambool to June quarter, 1950, thereafter all areas outside Melbourne and suburbs.

For meaning of symbols n.a., r, —, see page 1.

BUILDING OPERATIONS : METROPOLITAN AND PROVINCIAL—continued.

(Figures for government buildings relate to contracts let or day labour work commenced. Figures for private buildings relate only to permits issued by local government authorities. Alterations and additions are included.)

(£'000.)

Period.	Queensland.			South Australia.			Western Australia.			Tasmania.		
	Government.	Private.(a)		Government.(b)	Private.(a)		Government.	Private.(a)		Government.	Private.(a)	
	Common-wealth and State.	Brisbane Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. See Note C.	Common-wealth and State.	Adelaide Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. See Note D.	Common-wealth and State.	Perth Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. See Note E.	Common-wealth and State.	Hobart Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. See Note F.
Monthly Average—												
1936-37 ..	n.a.	153	98	n.a.	118	32	n.a.	168	n.a.	n.a.	32	19
1937-38 ..	n.a.	167	114	n.a.	173	48	n.a.	174	n.a.	n.a.	31	18
1938-39 ..	34	171	118	22	192	63	38	145	n.a.	20	32	16
1950-51 ..	357	1,106	c1,061	216	1,174	215	270	1,027	274	113	(d) 322	(e) 468
1951-52 ..	228	1,426	1,107	377	1,386	265	379	1,120	347	84	258	494
1952-53 ..	232	1,376	1,209	226	1,525	336	219	1,157	320	43	282	333
1953-54 ..	(f) 303	1,299	1,404	320	1,485	392	314	1,749	548	117	380	430
1954-55 ..	489	1,449	1,545	475	2,170	463	570	1,941	535	162	(g) 422	(g) 474
1955-56 ..	545	1,679	1,669	r959	2,403	812	277	1,494	413	106	411	536
1954-55—												
Sept. Qtr.	541	1,591	1,385	426	2,084	462	399	2,399	645	110	(g) 573	(g) 488
Dec. "	467	1,322	1,526	715	1,837	395	352	1,918	537	215	393	426
Mar. "	502	1,614	1,715	179	2,352	465	1,064	1,583	388	199	393	487
June "	447	1,270	1,554	583	2,408	530	464	1,865	572	124	330	496
1955-56—												
Sept. "	465	1,528	1,770	r1,872	2,531	496	292	1,959	440	139	441	502
Dec. "	476	1,887	1,566	704	2,324	1,300	297	1,616	410	93	420	480
Mar. "	559	1,364	1,370	772	2,397	493	359	1,233	416	52	441	553
June "	680	1,937	1,972	487	2,362	960	158	1,169	386	142	343	608
1956-57												
Sept. "	405	1,528	1,544	r417	1,878	886	197	1,323	467	381	r564	544
Monthly Total—												
1955-56—												
December	276	1,815	1,462	593	1,507	n.a.	192	1,428	332	181	290	314
January ..	741	1,394	883	1,391	2,165	n.a.	354	908	382	8	336	424
February ..	319	1,260	1,638	530	2,388	n.a.	524	1,183	428	80	359	686
March ..	616	1,438	1,588	396	2,637	n.a.	199	1,609	439	66	629	550
April ..	559	2,595	1,283	362	2,102	n.a.	165	1,126	463	127	361	506
May ..	757	1,820	1,528	476	2,138	n.a.	106	1,402	344	97	351	662
June ..	723	1,395	3,105	624	2,846	n.a.	203	978	350	203	318	655
1956-57—												
July ..	477	1,505	1,749	490	2,183	n.a.	193	963	498	154	512	457
August ..	221	1,386	1,971	78	1,947	n.a.	265	1,499	454	867	951	576
September ..	517	1,693	913	r682	1,503	n.a.	133	1,507	449	120	231	599
October ..		2,498	1,952		1,770	n.a.					487	619

(a) Includes buildings erected under government home building schemes where permits obtained from local government authorities.
 (b) Includes Northern Territory. (c) See C below. (d) Previously Hobart city area only. From September quarter, 1946, includes the whole metropolitan area of Hobart. (e) See F below. (f) From June quarter, 1954, includes the approvals of Hospital Boards not previously collected. (g) From July, 1954, the metropolitan area includes some additional areas previously included in "Other Recorded Areas." For details see September, 1954, issue of this publication.

NOTES.

C. Includes the Cities of Bundaberg, Cairns, Charters Towers, Gympie, Ipswich, Mackay, Maryborough, Rockhampton, Toowoomba, Townsville and Warwick, and the Towns of Bowen, Charleville, Dalby, Innisfail, Longreach, Redcliffe, Roma, Southport, and Stanthorpe to June quarter, 1947, thereafter all areas outside Brisbane and suburbs.

D. Includes local government areas, and estimate for unincorporated areas.

E. Includes 86 country local authorities, representing approximately 86 per cent. of provincial population.

F. Launceston only to June quarter, 1946, thereafter all areas outside Hobart and suburbs.

For meaning of symbols n.a., r, —, see page 1.

VALUE (WHEN COMPLETED) OF NEW BUILDINGS.

(Including Estimated Value of Owner-built Houses.)
(£'000.)

Period.	Commenced.			Completed.			Under Construction at end of period.		
	Houses.	Other.	Total.	Houses.	Other.	Total.	Houses.(a)	Other.	Total.(a)
Quarterly Average—									
1949-50	a27,516	8,014	a35,530	a 22,446	5,251	a 27,697	115,714	61,119	176,833
1950-51	a40,478	14,615	a55,093	a 31,243	6,258	a 37,501	162,399	91,632	254,031
1951-52	44,951	16,224	61,175	43,187	10,876	54,063	187,239	125,534	312,773
1952-53	39,358	13,909	53,267	47,634	18,169	65,803	166,706	115,629	282,335
1953-54	48,471	24,220	72,691	48,580	20,962	69,542	174,515	133,478	307,993
1954-55(b) ..	52,367	33,197	85,564	54,294	24,037	78,331	175,426	171,309	346,735
1955-56	51,915	42,951	94,866	54,859	33,142	88,001	174,463	220,426	394,889
Quarterly Total—									
1953-54—									
Sept.(b) Qtr. ..	53,801	32,712	86,513	52,519	23,461	75,980	178,714	143,860	322,574
Dec. " ..	51,850	26,282	78,132	57,253	23,784	81,037	175,587	146,986	322,573
March " ..	50,072	37,327	87,399	49,595	22,435	72,030	177,795	162,446	340,241
June " ..	53,751	36,470	90,221	57,804	26,469	84,273	175,426	171,309	346,735
1955-56—									
Sept. " ..	56,433	44,004	100,437	54,634	29,865	84,499	179,476	189,730	369,206
Dec. " ..	52,052	39,034	91,086	58,264	34,978	93,242	175,774	194,779	370,553
March " ..	50,720	45,243	95,963	51,115	32,277	83,392	177,170	209,904	387,074
June " ..	48,456	43,523	91,979	55,423	35,448	90,871	174,463	220,426	394,889
1956-57—									
Sept. " ..	50,346	47,362	97,708	51,600	36,795	88,395	172,887	233,897	406,784

(a) Partly estimated.

(b) From September Quarter 1954, includes Northern Territory.

VALUE OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED.

(Including Estimated Value of Owner-built Houses.)
(£'000.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australian Capital Territory.	Northern Territory.	Total.
Quarterly Average—									
1949-50	(a)10,230	8,671	3,488	2,268	1,338	1,336	366	n.a.	(a)27,697
1950-51	(a)12,367	13,035	4,322	3,010	2,237	2,101	429	n.a.	(a)37,501
1951-52	19,052	17,231	6,335	4,531	3,606	2,628	680	n.a.	54,063
1952-53	24,512	19,148	6,558	6,471	5,730	2,666	718	n.a.	65,803
1953-54	25,386	21,312	6,478	6,527	6,446	2,423	970	n.a.	69,542
1954-55	27,674	24,471	7,079	6,770	8,524	2,665	735	413	78,331
1955-56	31,035	27,733	7,630	8,429	8,419	3,199	1,072	484	88,001
Quarterly Total—									
1954-55—									
Sept. Qtr. ..	27,119	23,661	5,933	7,420	7,951	2,641	833	422	75,980
Dec. " ..	29,834	24,594	7,394	7,287	8,151	2,552	902	323	81,037
March " ..	24,403	23,106	6,620	5,935	8,334	2,730	373	529	72,030
June " ..	29,338	26,525	8,371	6,439	9,660	2,726	835	379	84,273
1955-56—									
Sept. " ..	30,397	24,476	7,413	7,528	9,546	3,469	1,220	450	84,499
Dec. " ..	33,254	29,725	8,598	8,219	9,050	2,861	964	571	93,242
Mar. " ..	27,387	28,933	6,503	7,941	7,574	3,535	1,102	417	83,392
June " ..	33,100	27,798	8,005	10,029	7,508	2,933	1,001	497	90,871
1956-57—									
Sept. " ..	31,805	28,954	8,553	7,901	6,485	2,930	1,073	694	88,395

(a) Partly estimated.

For meaning of symbols n.a., —, see page 1.

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES.

(Including Owner-built Houses.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australian Capital Territory.	Northern Territory.	Total.
COMMENCED.									
Quarterly Average—									
1949-50	(a)5,514	4,911	2,502	1,527	1,258	916	97	n.a.	(a)16,725
1950-51	(a)6,292	6,737	2,675	1,991	1,742	1,030	219	n.a.	(a)20,686
1951-52	6,091	5,877	2,999	2,128	1,932	896	78	n.a.	20,001
1952-53	5,258	4,064	2,345	1,992	1,753	571	132	n.a.	16,115
1953-54	7,099	5,229	2,128	1,698	1,902	666	89	n.a.	18,811
1954-55	6,375	5,668	1,946	1,797	2,144	718	160	62	18,870
1955-56	6,109	5,314	1,793	2,094	1,584	622	125	85	17,726
Quarterly Total—									
1954-55—Sept. Qtr.	6,889	6,025	2,097	1,653	2,466	706	88	52	19,976
Dec. "	6,440	5,609	1,982	1,745	2,283	710	139	46	18,954
Mar. "	5,918	5,447	1,770	1,799	1,791	796	202	66	17,789
June "	6,255	5,593	1,935	1,993	2,035	655	211	85	18,762
1955-56—Sept. "	6,849	5,529	1,950	2,348	1,919	586	222	88	19,491
Dec. "	6,281	5,230	1,790	2,121	1,715	648	115	70	17,970
Mar. "	5,671	5,584	1,692	2,001	1,417	592	111	71	17,139
June "	5,636	4,902	1,741	1,907	1,285	664	51	112	16,298
1956-57—Sept. "	5,904	4,843	2,214	1,742	1,173	510	100	103	16,589

COMPLETED.									
Quarterly Average—									
1949-50	(a)4,692	3,902	2,362	1,226	877	713	101	n.a.	(a)13,873
1950-51	(a)4,943	5,298	2,569	1,680	1,290	979	144	n.a.	(a)16,903
1951-52	5,837	6,022	2,951	1,928	1,644	1,000	146	n.a.	19,528
1952-53	6,222	5,310	2,650	2,235	1,991	829	147	n.a.	19,384
1953-54	6,628	5,398	2,240	1,881	1,907	658	138	n.a.	18,850
1954-55	7,221	5,960	1,981	1,831	2,198	620	99	50	19,960
1955-56	6,593	5,663	1,849	1,930	1,940	680	151	78	18,884
Quarterly Total—									
1954-55—Sept. Qtr.	7,295	5,884	1,766	1,951	1,970	559	108	43	19,576
Dec. "	7,680	6,339	2,068	1,993	2,340	737	133	44	21,334
Mar. "	6,418	5,526	1,998	1,600	1,874	558	67	32	18,073
June "	7,489	6,090	2,093	1,779	2,608	626	90	80	20,855
1955-56—Sept. "	7,000	5,679	1,981	1,903	1,951	579	132	76	19,301
Dec. "	6,506	6,341	1,923	2,000	2,339	715	156	80	20,060
Mar. "	5,991	5,298	1,668	1,837	1,684	704	149	76	17,407
June "	6,872	5,334	1,824	1,981	1,786	723	168	80	18,768
1956-57—Sept. "	5,334	5,470	1,715	1,846	1,281	778	175	99	16,698

UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT END OF PERIOD.(b)									
1949-50	26,402	21,553	4,520	5,241	3,957	3,357	678	n.a.	65,708
1950-51	31,793	27,308	4,943	6,529	5,764	3,558	981	n.a.	80,876
1951-52	32,806	26,726	5,135	7,395	6,917	3,143	708	n.a.	82,830
1952-53	28,946	21,675	3,918	6,464	5,951	2,114	646	n.a.	69,714
1953-54	30,828	20,995	3,470	5,750	5,932	2,149	449	n.a.	69,573
1954-55	27,448	19,827	3,329	5,602	5,715	2,536	691	211	65,359
1955-56	25,516	18,399	3,106	6,252	4,284	2,305	585	240	60,687
1954-55—Sept. Qtr. "	30,422	21,136	3,801	5,447	6,428	2,296	429	170	70,129
Dec. "	29,182	20,406	3,715	5,198	6,371	2,269	435	172	67,748
Mar. "	28,682	20,324	3,487	5,393	6,288	2,507	570	206	67,457
June "	27,448	19,827	3,329	5,602	5,715	2,536	691	211	65,359
1955-56—Sept. "	27,297	19,677	3,298	6,047	5,676	2,543	781	223	65,542
Dec. "	27,072	18,566	3,165	6,165	5,052	2,476	740	213	63,449
Mar. "	26,752	18,844	3,189	6,329	4,785	2,364	702	208	63,173
June "	25,516	18,399	3,106	6,252	4,284	2,305	585	240	60,687
1956-57—Sept. "	26,086	17,772	3,605	6,145	4,176	2,037	510	243	60,574

(a) Partly estimated. (b) Partly estimated for New South Wales and total.

For meaning of symbols n.a., —, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF COAL, ENERGY AND METALS.

Period.	Black Coal.			Brown Coal.	Gold, (Mine Production). (a)	Heat, Light and Power.		Metals.				
	Under-ground.	Open Cut.	Total.			Gas made in Gas-works.	Total Electricity Generated.	Pig Iron.	Ingot Steel.	Zinc, Refined. (b)	Lead, Refined and Lead in Lead Bullion. (b)	Copper, Refined. (b)
	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 fine oz.	Million cubic feet.	Million kWh.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Monthly Average—								(c)	(c)			
1936-37 ..	976	1	977	258	108.2	1,679	331	76.1	90.0	5,840	17,562	1,280
1937-38 ..	988	2	990	300	123.3	1,746	363	77.5	97.2	5,810	18,797	1,437
1938-39 ..	1,048	3	1,051	267	135.1	1,789	391	92.1	97.5	5,819	19,416	1,457
1949-50 ..	1,038	205	1,243	636	71.6	2,908	792	91.5	101.5	6,981	15,784	968
1950-51 ..	1,127	241	1,368	608	74.3	3,075	875	109.4	120.3	6,478	15,682	936
1951-52 ..	1,243	355	1,598	675	75.7	3,366	941	119.2	126.8	7,011	15,680	1,485
1952-53 ..	1,251	294	1,545	673	86.5	3,439	1,004	141.0	150.1	7,181	16,030	1,595
1953-54 ..	1,362	257	1,619	728	92.6	3,508	1,142	152.2	176.4	8,263	19,669	1,742
1954-55 ..	1,393	220	1,613	806	90.0	3,610	1,275	155.7	184.1	8,372	19,613	2,533
1955-56 p ..	1,403	183	1,586	865	85.8	3,719	1,399	159.2	194.9	8,659	18,719	2,422
Monthly Total—												
1954-55—												
October ..	1,500	228	1,728	819	88.7	3,663	1,243	174.2	200.9	8,876	20,234	3,288
November	1,533	249	1,782	826	95.6	3,405	1,212	160.6	189.5	8,496	19,709	3,318
December	1,255	224	1,479	698	97.6	3,256	1,189	164.7	189.2	8,761	18,165	3,299
January ..	734	172	906	711	78.3	3,065	1,162	159.4	173.6	8,763	18,622	2,046
February	1,413	153	1,566	730	76.2	2,942	1,163	137.9	156.3	7,820	14,805	2,786
March ..	1,480	161	1,641	828	92.7	3,310	1,315	157.4	182.2	8,197	17,303	1,468
April ..	1,295	190	1,485	817	77.9	3,335	1,243	138.0	158.1	7,058	21,964	1,906
May ..	1,489	223	1,712	894	87.6	3,974	1,396	147.4	190.0	7,573	21,829	2,539
June ..	1,485	227	1,712	861	99.7	4,170	1,441	141.8	178.6	8,156	17,938	4,002
1955-56 p—												
July ..	1,572	207	1,779	898	89.1	4,478	1,492	157.7	195.8	8,742	17,697	4,419
August ..	1,656	252	1,908	926	80.6	4,269	1,471	145.3	197.7	8,942	21,218	3,657
September	1,578	223	1,801	904	87.5	3,819	1,376	136.7	189.1	8,753	20,722	2,826
October ..	1,490	191	1,681	889	88.4	3,692	1,369	147.7	194.2	8,971	20,057	2,331
November	1,541	196	1,737	869	93.5	3,493	1,358	162.1	192.2	8,820	17,310	2,334
December	1,225	121	1,346	785	97.5	3,339	1,301	166.1	192.7	8,985	15,433	1,988
January	747	96	843	813	82.1	3,201	1,263	169.3	197.5	8,685	20,991	1,936
February	1,298	149	1,447	787	77.7	3,085	1,300	163.2	192.7	8,025	17,342	2,578
March ..	1,308	171	1,479	839	78.7	3,350	1,389	172.2	202.3	8,527	17,616	3,035
April ..	1,359	188	1,547	838	76.0	3,506	1,356	167.3	187.6	8,373	17,158	2,605
May ..	1,566	208	1,774	928	86.3	4,061	1,545	180.3	218.2	8,844	17,732	3,383
June ..	1,496	195	1,691	906	92.0	4,341	1,565	171.8	217.0	7,927	17,886	2,375
1956-57 p—												
July ..				967	94.5	4,654	1,655	179.4	230.3	9,728	24,402	3,050
August ..				982	85.2	4,524	1,652	152.1	206.6	8,906	21,041	2,773
September				930	91.4			178.4	228.6	8,784	20,831	1,970
October ..				951	86.8			158.0	226.5	9,052	21,363	1,294

(a) Gold content of minerals produced in Australia. (b) Source: Bureau of Mineral Resources and Australian Mines and Metals Association. (c) Monthly averages for twelve months ended May.

For meaning of symbols p, r, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF BUILDING MATERIALS AND HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES.

Period.	Building Materials.							Cooking Stoves.			Domestic Refrigerators.
	Clay Bricks.	Roofing Tiles.		Cement Building Sheets.	Sawn Native Timber. (a)	Portland Cement.	Fibrous Plaster Sheets.	Solid Fuel. (b)	Gas.(b)	Electric. (c)	
		Terra-cotta.	Cement.								
Monthly Average—	Million.	'000.	'000.	'000 sq. yds. (d)	Million sup. ft.	'000 tons.	'000 sq. yds.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1936-37 ..	53.1	2,630	326	522	53.6	60.0	567	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
1937-38 ..	57.4	3,023	430	678	62.2	71.0	619	4,562	3,481	749	1,257
1938-39 ..	60.0	3,307	374	791	59.8	72.3	634	4,538	3,894	730	2,458
1949-50 ..	50.3	3,785	3,387	1,529	101.9	97.3	1,105	5,155	3,892	2,865	13,528
1950-51 ..	57.4	3,918	4,230	1,771	105.1	102.9	1,265	6,251	4,613	3,733	16,994
1951-52 ..	60.0	4,072	5,540	1,944	116.0	103.1	1,373	5,975	4,251	4,240	16,066
1952-53 ..	55.6	4,831	3,338	2,022	111.6	119.9	1,285	3,994	2,978	1,883	15,179
1953-54 ..	66.8	5,315	3,721	2,174	116.7	141.7	1,349	4,198	3,587	3,098	22,874
1954-55 p..	69.9	5,328	4,477	2,340	120.7	160.0	1,482	4,147	4,897	3,929	23,465
1955-56 p..	69.1	5,383	4,644	2,283	121.2	167.8	1,407	3,825	4,505	3,872	20,664
Monthly Total—											
1954-55 p—											
October..	72.9	5,532	4,420	2,621	126.0	169.1	1,504	4,609	5,457	3,735	33,145
November	75.4	5,578	4,924	2,336	131.1	171.9	1,563	4,601	5,357	3,719	34,368
December	60.9	4,785	4,114	2,089	120.6	153.3	1,248	3,525	4,595	3,841	30,959
January ..	49.5	3,717	3,260	1,611	90.2	142.5	1,068	2,465	2,976	2,532	19,827
February	67.3	5,450	4,295	2,370	112.6	136.9	1,473	3,739	4,645	4,217	22,170
March ..	73.7	5,449	4,892	2,341	119.9	160.8	1,586	3,961	5,352	4,751	18,394
April ..	64.5	5,120	4,108	2,145	98.8	152.3	1,380	3,516	4,643	4,053	10,290
May ..	74.0	5,505	4,424	2,210	122.9	169.8	1,517	4,199	5,400	4,485	13,207
June ..	71.5	5,370	4,453	2,379	131.5	168.3	1,469	4,279	5,215	4,329	13,794
1955-56 p—							(e)				
July ..	72.5	5,401	4,707	2,811	126.7	164.5	1,473	4,342	6,514	4,828	13,329
August ..	79.3	6,137	4,932	2,318	132.4	170.3	1,606	5,116	7,662	4,589	19,848
September	76.1	5,751	5,014	2,254	139.6	173.0	1,539	4,496	6,283	4,070	26,195
October..	75.3	6,148	4,795	2,622	127.4	175.3	1,504	3,877	5,542	3,848	33,207
November	77.9	6,101	4,971	2,476	134.9	190.9	1,592	3,978	5,370	4,302	34,814
December	60.0	4,545	3,936	2,014	135.9	155.4	1,154	2,878	3,452	3,121	27,670
January ..	52.3	3,801	3,838	1,340	91.9	135.4	1,023	2,479	3,017	2,842	19,604
February	66.8	5,445	4,947	2,236	111.7	152.4	1,455	3,790	3,962	4,183	18,611
March ..	66.8	5,113	5,011	2,176	105.3	171.4	1,375	3,294	3,307	3,576	17,196
April ..	65.1	5,039	4,675	2,299	96.6	168.6	1,332	3,272	3,111	3,165	11,515
May ..	71.2	5,921	4,948	2,485	126.8	181.8	1,502	4,195	2,896	4,173	12,938
June ..	65.2	5,196	3,953	2,364	125.1	175.5	1,347	4,182	2,938	3,771	13,044
1956-57 p—											
July ..	69.7	5,184	3,979	r1,990	120.7	179.6	1,381	4,126	5,543	4,494	14,412
August ..	r71.6	5,431	4,119	r2,046	128.9	197.5	1,415	4,415	6,113	4,922	15,915
September	r65.9	5,102	3,922	r2,137		176.8	r1,298	3,622	5,112	4,383	18,327
October..	74.5	5,521	4,291	2,113		203.6	1,396	4,644	5,661	5,327	26,465

(a) Includes sawn sleepers.

(b) Household, commercial and industrial cooking stoves to 1947-48—thereafter household cooking stoves only.

(c) Household, commercial and industrial cooking stoves, ranges, stovettes and cookers to 1944-45—thereafter household cooking stoves only.

(d) In terms of '000 standard square yards to 1944-45, thereafter in terms of '000 selling square yards. A standard square yard contains a given volume of sheet; a selling square yard represents the area covered by the finished sheet regardless of its thickness or corrugation. (e) From July, 1955, represents total production in all establishments and includes small quantities not previously recorded in some States.

For meaning of symbols n.a., p. r., —, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING.

Period.	Cotton Textiles.		Pure Rayon Fabrics.	Wool Textiles.			Boots and Shoes (not Rubber).
	Cotton Yarn.	Cotton Woven Textiles (excl. Towels and Towelling).		Scoured and Carbonized Wool.	Yarn.	Woven Cloth.	
	'000 lb.	'000 sq. yds.	'000 sq. yds.	Million lb.	Million lb.	Million sq. yds.	'000 pairs.
Monthly Average—							
1936-37	730	n.a.	n.a.	8.4	2.14	2.04	1,208
1937-38	965	n.a.	n.a.	7.9	2.51	2.47	1,176
1938-39	974	n.a.	n.a.	8.8	2.71	2.65	1,164
1949-50	2,519	2,398	549	14.4	4.09	3.11	1,284
1950-51	2,938	2,537	905	12.7	3.87	3.13	1,409
1951-52	2,872	2,617	905	10.1	3.04	2.44	1,400
1952-53	2,302	2,052	1,289	10.3	2.97	2.38	1,374
1953-54	3,175	2,678	1,686	11.4	3.83	2.72	1,548
1954-55 p	3,458	2,753	1,259	11.3	3.55	2.43	1,492
1955-56 p	3,360	3,138	1,311	12.0	3.66	r2.24	1,490
Monthly Total—							
1954-55 p—							
October	3,462	2,931	1,307	11.4	3.75	2.52	1,497
November	3,618	3,016	1,354	12.1	3.84	2.70	1,567
December	3,045	2,402	1,109	10.0	3.02	2.06	1,263
January	2,406	1,989	800	8.5	2.39	1.76	836
February	3,398	2,636	1,271	10.6	3.43	2.42	1,391
March	3,901	3,007	1,406	12.6	3.95	2.55	1,591
April	2,880	2,460	1,348	10.4	3.26	1.97	1,329
May	3,446	2,993	1,698	12.4	3.69	2.29	1,579
June	3,699	3,091	1,529	13.4	3.98	2.31	1,609
1955-56 p—							
July	3,405	3,000	1,260	11.7	3.46	2.06	1,482
August	3,823	3,272	1,304	11.5	3.86	2.48	1,751
September	3,575	3,136	1,156	10.0	3.75	2.49	1,609
October	3,441	3,071	1,161	11.7	3.58	2.26	1,527
November	3,848	3,127	1,348	13.0	4.00	2.52	1,600
December	2,522	2,214	1,031	11.1	2.82	1.67	1,146
January	2,413	2,493	1,005	9.1	2.39	1.80	957
February	3,644	3,281	1,476	12.1	3.97	2.58	1,502
March	3,301	3,223	1,351	12.6	4.04	2.56	1,575
April	3,189	3,321	1,526	11.6	3.54	2.13	1,456
May	3,730	3,942	1,500	14.2	4.45	2.77	1,739
June	3,423	3,579	1,516	14.7	4.04	2.32	1,558
1956-57 p—							
July	3,653	3,933	1,590	r13.2	3.81	2.53	1,662
August	r3,972	4,184	1,464	r13.3	4.28	2.80	1,825
September	3,520	3,870	1,532	r11.0	4.01	2.70	1,666
October	4,028	4,314	1,670	13.1	4.56	3.20	1,856

For meaning of symbols n.a., p, r, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING—continued.

Period.	Hosiery.				Underwear.(a)		Shirts, Men's and Boys'.
	Men's. (b)	Women's. (c)	Children's.	Infants' and Babies'.	Men's, Youths and Boys'.	Women's, Maids and Girls'.	
	'000 doz. pairs.	'000 doz. pairs.	'000 doz. pairs.	'000 doz. pairs.	'000 doz.	'000 doz.	'000 doz.
Monthly Average—							
1936-37	83.1	157.1	(d)49.1	(e)	191.8		(f)60.6
1937-38	86.7	183.7	(d)52.0	(e)	227.6		(f)69.9
1938-39	91.9	178.0	(d)51.0	(e)	229.2		(f)56.2
1949-50	99.3	142.4	(d)54.7	(e)	294.2		(f)73.7
1950-51	128.0	154.8	(d)46.9	(e)	107.7	201.9	89.5
1951-52	121.8	155.6	(g)	38.9	105.6	196.6	96.5
1952-53	131.2	194.8		35.5	93.6	173.7	73.4
1953-54	157.9	232.8		47.5	120.8	224.4	103.3
1954-55 p ..	138.7	251.4		44.3	119.0	230.8	118.3
1955-56 p ..	130.9	249.8		24.3	129.8	229.9	109.1
Monthly Total—							
1954-55 p—							
October	157.4	265.3	(g)	43.4	109.4	240.4	159.0
November ..	165.2	282.8		32.9	131.2	257.3	164.4
December ..	137.4	226.7		28.6	113.2	223.9	116.3
January	89.1	160.4		16.3	74.9	141.8	52.6
February ..	127.0	242.0		38.8	116.0	218.8	89.1
March	155.8	269.4		43.2	133.3	236.0	102.3
April	108.8	243.3		26.0	107.4	185.5	77.2
May	128.3	268.0		29.3	124.5	227.5	98.8
June	142.5	258.9		28.2	123.6	217.4	112.5
1955-56 p—							
July	131.9	243.8	(g)	24.3	127.9	232.7	124.2
August	144.8	255.4		29.1	153.6	245.1	149.3
September ..	130.5	271.4		26.3	136.0	238.1	142.5
October	133.6	259.7		27.7	140.5	253.3	133.4
November ..	153.8	284.3		29.0	158.4	285.0	144.4
December ..	105.5	209.2		20.2	102.7	197.4	105.6
January	88.3	153.3		16.6	77.5	146.0	45.2
February ..	139.3	252.8		27.1	141.1	242.8	85.2
March	131.4	262.7		26.4	138.5	231.7	84.0
April	122.7	233.8		23.1	120.8	211.5	81.8
May	152.0	285.0		21.6	146.5	251.8	108.4
June	136.5	289.4		20.4	113.3	223.6	105.6
1956-57 p—							
July	114.4	r249.1	r73.0	r11.7	143.3	257.7	128.3
August	138.9	r269.6	71.2	11.2	143.3	269.1	146.4
September ..	133.4	246.3	67.3	10.5	143.0	240.4	138.2
October	158.2	278.5	71.8	11.9	169.0	296.7	165.1

(a) Total made including that knitted or made of knitted or woven fabric. (b) Includes Boys' prior to July, 1956.
(c) Includes Maids' and Girls' prior to July, 1956. (d) Includes Infants' and Babies'. (e) Included with Children's.
(f) Excludes knitted. (g) Included with Men's and Women's.

For meaning of symbols p, r, —, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF FOOD AND DRINK.

Period.	Wheaten Flour.	Refined Sugar.	Whole Milk for All Purposes.	Dairy Products (Factory Production).			Meat (Bone-in Weight).(a)					Beer.
				Butter.	Cheese.	Processed Full Cream Milk Products.	Beef (including Veal).	Mutton.	Lamb.	Total Pigeats (as Pork).	Total. (b)	
	'000 short tons.	'000 tons.	Million gals.	Tons.	Tons.	'000 gals.(c)	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 gals.
Monthly Average—												
1936-37	102.4	27.0	89.9	13,908	1,636	n.a.	45.9	16.0	10.0	7.7	79.6	6,261
1937-38	104.2	28.9	96.4	15,242	2,018	n.a.	49.7	17.2	9.9	7.2	84.0	7,084
1938-39	114.4	28.2	99.2	16,232	2,415	2,781	46.6	17.1	9.6	7.2	80.5	7,523
1949-50	125.8	35.2	103.2	14,037	3,731	7,464	50.5	17.2	12.7	7.5	87.9	13,009
1950-51	141.3	37.6	99.8	13,303	3,692	7,069	54.3	13.5	9.4	7.1	84.3	14,397
1951-52	143.4	41.1	87.3	10,931	3,382	6,360	48.5	14.7	8.9	7.1	79.2	15,398
1952-53	143.9	36.7	101.3	13,632	3,883	6,951	56.2	20.8	12.2	6.9	96.1	16,446
1953-54	134.1	37.4	99.1	13,010	4,087	6,314	58.7	19.8	10.6	7.0	96.1	17,380
1954-55p	128.2	39.9	110.5	15,667	3,765	r5,364	59.5	19.4	12.2	8.1	99.2	19,066
1955-56p	127.8	41.0	117.1	17,153	r3,223	r6,053	62.5	19.3	12.0	7.8	101.6	19,420
Monthly Total—												
1954-55p—												
Sept. ..	112.2	42.5	117.9	16,288	5,422	r6,981	61.2	18.5	15.6	7.8	103.1	19,074
Oct. ..	113.6	44.6	148.4	21,819	6,657	r8,461	59.3	20.9	22.9	7.2	110.3	20,313
Nov. ..	120.9	43.6	163.3	25,011	6,660	r8,685	57.4	21.5	19.1	9.2	107.2	20,787
Dec. ..	136.4	43.7	160.1	24,715	5,910	r8,145	56.4	21.3	15.6	11.0	104.3	22,139
Jan. ..	131.4	40.0	131.4	19,681	4,096	r6,622	46.0	21.3	9.7	6.9	83.9	20,657
Feb. ..	134.6	36.8	111.8	16,598	2,729	r4,959	49.1	21.1	8.9	7.4	86.5	20,383
Mar. ..	151.4	37.7	112.1	16,658	2,454	r4,286	58.0	21.5	9.2	8.4	97.1	21,541
Apr. ..	128.6	33.5	88.8	12,358	1,816	r3,014	52.7	17.7	8.4	8.0	86.8	18,816
May ..	142.6	40.4	74.3	9,435	1,589	r2,581	62.1	18.1	8.6	8.2	97.0	17,216
June ..	120.8	36.2	65.5	7,627	1,662	r2,416	73.5	18.3	8.7	7.9	108.4	16,257
1955-56p—												
July ..	125.2	37.5	71.8	8,479	2,174	r3,255	68.0	16.1	7.7	6.7	98.5	16,038
Aug. ..	119.4	40.9	98.1	13,280	3,166	r5,256	70.3	17.1	8.7	7.7	103.8	18,289
Sept. ..	114.4	42.9	125.2	18,203	4,380	r7,343	71.1	19.3	13.6	7.5	111.5	20,164
Oct. ..	129.7	44.9	158.1	24,318	5,363	r8,969	67.5	21.1	22.6	7.3	118.5	21,947
Nov. ..	138.8	44.3	r166.8	26,173	5,253	r9,588	67.0	22.9	21.5	9.2	120.6	23,259
Dec. ..	135.6	40.3	160.2	25,284	r4,575	r8,675	60.5	23.4	17.3	10.8	112.0	23,958
Jan. ..	119.9	42.4	151.1	23,925	r3,690	r7,815	50.0	21.7	10.2	6.6	88.5	20,498
Feb. ..	108.6	40.5	r128.0	20,041	r2,515	r5,797	52.2	20.3	9.1	7.0	88.6	21,120
Mar. ..	128.1	41.6	109.3	15,890	r2,317	r5,226	53.5	18.4	9.2	7.6	88.7	20,943
Apr. ..	131.3	37.6	r90.0	12,332	r1,859	r3,934	52.8	17.3	8.1	7.3	85.5	16,966
May ..	147.6	43.3	r77.7	9,846	r1,668	3,578	64.8	16.8	8.2	7.8	97.6	15,605
June ..	135.3	36.2	68.9	8,069	r1,719	3,195	72.2	16.5	8.1	7.2	104.0	14,257
1956-57p—												
July ..	137.9	38.4	76.8	9,229	2,352	3,561	69.4	16.1	8.1	6.8	100.4	15,417
August	r145.8	39.1	102.0	13,758	3,561	5,374	69.5	16.3	9.4	6.9	102.1	17,004
Sept. ..	147.9	41.3	123.1	17,277	4,973	7,447	65.2	16.9	11.3	6.3	99.7	17,495

(a) Includes monthly estimates of production in Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory.

(b) In terms of fresh meat.

(c) Whole milk equivalent.

For meaning of symbols n.a., p, r, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTS.

Period.	Tobacco, Cigars and Cigarettes. (a)	Chemicals and Allied Products.					Motor Bodies.			Pneumatic Tyres— Motor Cycle, Car, Truck, Aero, &c.
		Sulphuric Acid (100%).	Super- phosphate.	Paints.			Sedans and Coupes.	Tourers and Roadsters.	Utilities.	
				Ready- Mixed Paint.	Lacquers, Nitro- Cellulose.	Enamels, Natural and Synthetic.				
	'000 lb.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 gals.	'000 gals.	'000 gals.	No.	No.	No.	'000.
Monthly Average—										
1936-37	1,805	36.4	90.9	161	n.a.	n.a.	3,660	478	610	n.a.
1937-38	1,904	41.3	102.8	170	60	39	4,032	804	518	n.a.
1938-39	1,939	40.8	100.0	176	48	48	3,426	816	715	n.a.
1949-50	2,558	51.0	123.6	330	78	186	2,347	333	1,174	164
1950-51	2,652	53.3	129.0	466	96	157	3,036	387	1,853	187
1951-52	2,795	54.2	133.1	459	99	174	3,486	390	1,865	213
1952-53	3,029	52.3	131.7	358	84	176	4,133		1,745	141
1953-54	3,487	61.0	147.6	432	109	225	5,514		2,088	241
1954-55 p ..	3,706	69.4	163.7	508	123	304	6,002		2,245	293
1955-56 p ..	3,809	74.6	177.2	548	124	343	6,808		2,017	300
Monthly Total—										
1954-55 p—										
October	3,713	59.6	127.3	514	125	330	5,592		2,417	293
November ..	4,079	62.7	141.2	561	140	323	5,886		2,414	312
December ..	3,831	70.3	160.3	482	103	285	4,888		2,225	228
January	3,075	69.4	179.6	532	90	218	3,184		1,165	199
February ..	3,826	64.9	154.7	548	124	271	5,931		2,072	289
March	3,958	79.8	203.2	617	139	333	7,135		2,476	326
April	3,392	74.7	172.5	532	114	276	5,710		1,903	279
May	4,055	76.5	177.9	587	137	312	6,799		2,314	328
June	3,713	77.4	195.1	500	129	330	7,157		2,004	326
1955-56 p—										
July	3,692	65.0	146.3	466	112	288	7,316		2,035	320
August	3,992	64.5	149.6	557	137	365	7,968		2,364	350
September ..	3,795	78.7	181.9	591	131	385	7,529		2,373	336
October	3,748	75.7	168.1	571	134	412	7,013		2,203	309
November ..	4,090	80.1	198.3	640	141	397	7,726		2,474	332
December ..	3,752	80.4	179.1	534	109	335	6,358		1,920	245
January	3,474	76.1	189.2	422	93	273	4,391		997	204
February ..	3,851	80.6	211.5	520	128	308	7,125		2,187	296
March	3,978	78.1	187.8	592	130	330	7,510		2,037	282
April	3,810	76.7	176.4	562	122	311	6,031		1,794	280
May	3,844	72.4	178.0	644	137	389	7,589		2,215	339
June	3,649	66.7	159.6	474	117	326	5,143		1,603	301
1956-57 p—										
July	3,848	r58.3	114.4	494	116	321	5,812		1,905	325
August	3,988	r65.7	150.9	506	121	378	7,470		1,720	325
September ..	3,843	r66.9	119.3	527	113	r360	r5,756		r1,621	284
October	4,408	69.1	161.6	622	127	424	6,854		2,068	304

(a) Details for 1954-55 and earlier periods refer to Australian factory production ; 1955-56 and later figures to quantity on which excise duty was paid.

For meaning of symbols n.a., p, r, see page 1.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION INDEXES : VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Unless otherwise stated, the indexes shown below include mining, manufacturing, electricity and manufactured gas, but exclude construction. When the indexes are adjusted for differences in the number of working days per month or for seasonal variations they are footnoted accordingly.

Source : *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* of the Statistical Office of the United Nations.

(Base: 1953 = 100.)

Period.	Belgium. (a)	Canada. (b)	Denmark. (b)	France. (b)	Italy.	Japan.	Nether- lands.	Norway. (b)	Sweden. (b)	United King- dom. (c)	U.S.A. (b) (d)
1949 ..	88	80	88	87	68	48	78	77	94	88	72
1950 ..	89	85	98	87	79	55	87	87	97	94	84
1951 ..	102	91	100	99	90	74	91	94	101	97	90
1952 ..	100	94	96	103	91	82	91	95	99	94	93
1953 ..	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1954 ..	106	98	109	109	109	108	110	109	104	107	93
1955 ..	116	107	111	121	118	117	118	113	111	113	104
1954—											
July ..	98	96	75	105	117	104	109	74	56	97	87
August ..	107	99	111	86	93	102	108	104	103	93	92
September..	111	102	118	111	115	105	116	115	110	110	93
October ..	112	103	116	113	117	110	117	116	112	115	97
November..	112	102	118	118	112	109	120	118	115	116	97
December..	113	97	111	119	115	112	122	109	113	108	96
1955—											
January ..	112	96	110	118	109	99	107	110	111	112	99
February ..	113	100	115	120	107	105	104	129	113	116	101
March ..	113	101	116	123	122	115	123	124	114	118	103
April ..	116	104	113	121	114	112	114	104	119	111	103
May ..	115	108	114	123	123	113	115	109	116	116	103
June ..	119	111	112	125	118	115	126	119	116	113	104
July ..	100	106	75	113	124	117	116	78	61	101	97
August ..	112	109	113	94	103	118	116	108	106	98	104
September..	120	113	119	119	r125	121	123	121	116	116	106
October ..	119	114	117	123	126	120	125	120	117	121	110
November..	124	114	118	131	121	122	126	123	122	121	108
December	128	106	110	127	122	128	123	112	116	114	106
1956—											
January ..	121	104	109	130	120	117	117	123	114	115	107
February ..	114	107	111	128	114	123	111	141	113	117	107
March ..	123	112	107	133	130	129	127	115	119	117	107
April ..	128	112	100	137	123	136	119	116	119	113	107
May ..	130	114	112	142	132	137	129	109	120	r113	105
June ..	127	120	113	139	130	139	130	124	117	117	105
July ..	111	115	74	r128	135	141	121	78	61	106	96
August ..	118	116	113	96	110	142	122	119	109	94	106
September			120	133		144	122	128		116	109

(a) Adjusted for seasonal variations and for number of working days.

(b) Adjusted for number of working days.

(c) Partially adjusted for number of working days. Includes construction.

(d) Excludes electricity and manufactured gas.

For meaning of symbol r, see page 1.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS.

(Excludes Defence Service vehicles. Prior to January, 1956 Department of Navy vehicles were included.)

Period.	Motor Vehicles on Register at end of period.			New Motor Vehicles Registered during period.		
	Motor Cars.(a)	Commercial Vehicles, &c.(a)	Motor Cycles.	Motor Cars. (a)	Commercial Vehicles, &c.(a)	Motor Cycles.
	'000.	'000.	'000.			
Monthly Averages.						
1936-37(b)	499	214	78	(c)4,049	(c)(d)2,016	(c) 623
1937-38(b)	535	242	80	(c)4,594	(c)(d)2,283	(c) 694
1938-39	562	258	79	(c)4,509	(c)(d)2,077	(c) 614
1947-48(c)	592	412	100	3,562	(d)2,397	1,192
1948-49(c)	655	450	117	5,539	(d)3,056	1,852
1949-50(c)	768	r499	134	9,584	(d)4,829	2,232
1950-51(c)	882	548	145	10,671	6,461	2,263
1951-52(c)	1,031	581	154	10,480	6,085	1,846
1952-53(c)	1,108	579	148	7,773	4,337	941
1953-54	1,200	607	140	10,466	4,783	905
1954-55	1,347	650	133	13,900	5,598	941
1955-56	1,472	679	126	13,633	5,776	878
Monthly Totals.						
1954-55—				(e)	(e)	(e)
October	1,251	622	137	13,596	5,765	953
November	1,268	629	138	13,572	6,134	890
December	1,284	635	138	13,425	5,705	1,151
January	1,284	631	136	8,157	3,817	834
February	1,295	636	136	12,772	4,749	964
March	1,306	639	135	15,791	5,851	1,117
April	1,317	640	134	13,539	4,867	912
May	1,335	647	134	16,176	6,184	1,034
June	1,347	650	133	16,525	6,192	787
1955-56—						
July	1,356	652	132	15,195	6,009	789
August	1,370	655	131	16,843	6,191	890
September	1,383	656	130	15,991	6,563	936
October	1,392	657	130	15,010	6,564	910
November	1,409	663	130	14,897	5,994	1,007
December	1,420	666	129	14,413	5,850	1,004
January	1,428	660	128	9,887	4,563	866
February	1,440	670	128	12,343	5,325	881
March	1,452	674	128	14,202	5,631	978
April	1,456	674	127	10,999	5,037	749
May	1,464	677	126	12,213	6,182	887
June	1,472	679	126	11,738	5,280	633
1956-57—						
July	1,478	681	125	11,778	5,436	644
August	1,489	685	125	r13,653	r5,225	800
September p				12,400	4,600	660
October p				13,700	5,300	860

(a) Registration in Victoria is according to purpose of use and not type of vehicle : consequently motor car registrations are overstated by the inclusion of commercial vehicles, registered for private use. Prior to 12th November, 1951, primary producers' private cars registered in Victoria were included in commercial vehicle registrations. (b) Excludes extra-Metropolitan area of Western Australia. (c) Excludes Northern Territory. (d) Includes taxis and hire cars in Victoria. (e) Includes some new registrations effected in preceding months but not passed into central registration records until subsequent months.

For meaning of symbols p, r, see page 1.

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS : OPERATIONS AND REVENUE.

Period.	Revenue Train-Miles.	Goods and Livestock.(a)		Passenger Journeys.	Revenue.	
		Tons Carried.	Net Ton- miles.(b)		Gross.	Net.
	'000.	'000.	Million.	'000.	£'000.	£'000.
Monthly Average—						
1936-37	6,088	2,678	330.7	31,469	3,517	910
1937-38	6,418	2,952	360.1	32,078	3,705	852
1938-39	6,463	2,737	338.8	32,070	3,662	666
1948-49	7,690	3,428	517.7	42,225	7,165	85
1949-50	7,785	3,362	516.9	42,054	7,683	-205
1950-51	7,390	3,392	523.1	39,674	8,804	-594
1951-52	7,780	3,672	562.9	41,707	11,626	-721
1952-53	7,394	3,644	547.8	41,468	12,903	-560
1953-54	7,789	3,880	579.4	42,557	14,155	140
1954-55	7,911	3,951	608.0	43,071	14,498	124
1955-56 p	8,048	3,876	605.4	42,895	14,787	-532
Monthly Total—						
1953-54—					(c)	(c)
June	7,932	3,987	607.2	41,895	15,922	-1,769
1954-55—						
July	8,073	4,207	631.9	41,967	14,456	732
August	7,948	4,159	619.3	44,603	15,123	1,362
September	8,082	4,260	639.5	43,017	15,375	1,442
October	8,287	4,178	665.4	42,696	15,304	1,174
November	8,176	4,343	681.4	44,244	15,856	1,228
December	8,045	4,143	616.9	41,120	15,786	1,179
January	7,476	3,339	531.2	40,885	13,082	-40
February	7,253	3,503	539.9	44,395	12,947	-460
March	7,606	3,910	563.5	42,811	13,725	-292
April	7,759	3,537	575.3	41,878	13,704	-761
May	8,141	4,011	633.9	46,449	14,762	-860
June	8,083	3,827	597.2	42,791	14,134	-2,073
1955-56 p—						
July	8,155	4,125	630.2	43,104	14,215	-92
August	8,371	4,350	635.4	44,990	15,418	+161
September	8,229	4,238	635.4	43,198	15,514	+780
October	8,249	4,129	627.9	45,489	15,259	+180
November	8,007	4,251	635.7	40,916	15,535	-41
December	8,031	3,736	573.7	39,862	14,275	-992
January	7,792	3,187	521.9	42,273	13,572	-551
February	7,310	3,469	560.2	42,929	13,541	-775
March	8,075	3,624	602.7	42,160	14,812	-394
April	7,760	3,687	575.5	44,257	14,172	-626
May	8,483	4,069	648.6	43,329	15,571	-2,084
June	8,109	3,812	617.6	42,231	15,564	-1,947

(a) Excludes South Brisbane-Border section of Uniform Gauge Railway. (b) From 1946-47 figures are partly estimated.
(c) Calculated from monthly returns of revenue and expenditure and not strictly comparable with annual figures above as monthly details exclude certain items of revenue and expenditure which are only allocated on an annual basis.

NOTE.—Minus sign (—) denotes loss.

For meaning of symbols p, —, see page 1.

SHIPPING CARGOES.

'000 TONS WEIGHT.

(Excluding all cargo shipped by ton measurement.)(a).

Period.	Oversea Cargo.		Interstate Cargo Shipped from—						
	Shipped from Australian Ports.	Discharged at Australian Ports.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia. (b)
Monthly Average—									
1936-37.. ..	419	304	228	71	30	163	3	47	542
1937-38.. ..	478	364	247	73	24	186	3	53	586
1938-39.. ..	428	350	228	72	27	219	5	51	602
1949-50.. ..	422	641	233	37	30	198	5	32	535
1950-51.. ..	450	757	232	37	36	222	5	28	560
1951-52.. ..	374	810	280	37	45	238	11	29	641
1952-53.. ..	504	644	285	34	53	247	52	33	704
1953-54.. ..	479	711	307	39	36	287	54	35	758
1954-55.. ..	507	916	302	74	43	318	73	41	851
1955-56p ..	554	1,032	293	95	40	328	137	41	935
Monthly Total—									
1954-55—									
September ..	466	750	308	77	56	230	80	47	799
October ..	558	836	330	90	49	335	54	46	904
November(c) ..	319	799	182	43	29	318	34	24	630
December ..	651	873	314	86	74	266	51	23	815
January ..	500	831	274	91	45	361	42	50	863
February ..	466	935	269	78	54	318	24	55	798
March ..	640	1,015	302	48	19	327	99	39	835
April ..	506	1,073	306	68	51	290	67	35	818
May ..	486	1,058	335	77	28	352	115	42	949
June ..	483	1,073	369	107	13	309	114	43	955
1955-56 p—									
July ..	462	882	405	114	64	326	116	56	1,081
August ..	496	1,060	321	120	42	334	135	49	1,001
September ..	450	981	307	88	54	364	204	51	1,068
October ..	460	971	291	98	58	340	123	33	943
November ..	508	1,085	292	115	39	287	143	41	917
December ..	560	1,105	243	110	57	253	163	22	848
January(c) ..	463	930	193	84	17	329	174	30	827
February(c) ..	409	913	191	81	21	258	105	17	673
March ..	674	1,130	286	69	42	321	113	41	873
April ..	602	960	301	103	13	316	106	47	886
May ..	888	1,300	366	86	32	422	113	56	1,076
June ..	673	1,063	319	80	37	387	148	55	1,026
1956-57 p—									
July ..	686	959	317	62	60	342	99	41	921
August ..	715	1,036	376	87	50	369	120	52	1,055
September ..	786	965	326	72	55	410	137	40	1,040

(a) Additional to figures for Tons Measurement on page 46.

(b) Includes Northern Territory.

(c) Affected by industrial dispute.

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

SHIPPING CARGOES.

'000 TONS OF 40 CUBIC FEET MEASUREMENT.
(Excluding all cargo shipped by ton weight.)(a)

Period.	Overseas Cargo.		Interstate Cargo Shipped from—						
	Shipped from Australian Ports.	Discharged at Australian Ports.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia. (b)
Monthly Average—									
1936-37..	78	169	56	22	9	20	5	21	133
1937-38..	91	190	59	28	13	26	5	25	156
1938-39..	91	183	56	21	13	22	5	27	144
 1949-50..	116	298	25	21	11	17	7	20	101
1950-51..	108	333	27	20	10	20	6	27	110
1951-52..	103	391	32	25	9	17	6	21	110
1952-53..	121	161	31	22	8	17	9	19	106
1953-54..	113	234	36	35	10	19	8	20	128
1954-55..	118	284	34	35	10	16	8	20	123
1955-56 p	127	285	24	31	9	12	10	26	112
Monthly Total—									
1954-55—									
September ..	121	270	37	36	14	17	10	25	139
October ..	101	265	30	43	11	16	6	14	120
November(c) ..	67	235	16	20	6	12	8	12	74
December ..	126	265	43	42	9	16	6	28	144
January ..	90	370	30	23	5	12	7	23	100
February ..	78	259	31	34	11	11	8	13	108
March ..	141	330	33	42	10	17	6	21	129
April ..	130	267	32	31	9	15	9	28	124
May ..	206	310	28	38	9	14	10	21	120
June ..	145	302	36	38	9	17	13	21	134
1955-56 p—									
July ..	127	316	31	50	11	16	9	36	154
August ..	130	324	25	32	9	16	6	32	120
September ..	123	289	34	36	13	16	12	37	148
October ..	133	324	24	38	11	14	6	23	116
November ..	110	322	27	39	17	16	12	28	139
December ..	104	316	22	32	3	14	8	18	97
January(c) ..	65	213	15	20	4	5	5	14	63
February(c) ..	43	269	12	9	4	4	4	31	64
March ..	157	292	26	27	5	18	11	15	102
April ..	174	259	24	27	9	8	2	26	96
May ..	197	256	27	28	9	6	34	36	140
June ..	162	237	19	33	8	9	8	22	99
1956-57 p—									
July ..	78	277	14	20	9	8	11	19	81
August ..	125	356	29	28	8	6	5	17	93
September ..	101	214	19	34	8	10	5	42	118

(a) Additional to figures for Tons Weight on page 45.
dispute.

(b) Includes Northern Territory

(c) Affected by industrial

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

POST OFFICE ACTIVITY.

Period.	Receipts of P.M.G's Department.(a)	Broadcast Listeners' Licences in force at end of period.	Telephone Services connected at end of period.	
			Lines.	Instruments.
	£'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.
	Monthly Average.			
1936-37	1,318	938	440	595
1937-38	1,396	1,056	465	630
1938-39	1,447	1,130	488	662
1948-49	2,776	1,919	734	1,028
1949-50	3,196	2,030	793	1,110
1950-51	3,732	(b)2,110	864	1,209
1951-52	4,948	1,961	927	1,301
1952-53	5,367	1,986	985	1,384
1953-54	5,650	2,042	1,050	1,476
1954-55	6,069	2,035	1,127	1,587
1955-56	6,612	2,089	1,207	1,704
	Monthly Total.			
1954-55—				
October	5,929	2,047	1,075	1,513
November	6,391	2,053	1,081	1,522
December	7,038	2,044	1,088	1,531
January	5,160	2,039	1,095	1,540
February	5,927	2,047	1,101	1,548
March	6,619	2,031	1,107	1,558
April	5,769	2,028	1,113	1,566
May	6,231	2,039	1,120	1,576
June	6,637	2,035	1,127	1,587
1955-56—				
July	5,921	2,036	1,135	1,598
August	6,509	2,045	1,143	1,610
September	6,493	2,051	1,151	1,622
October	6,766	2,051	1,159	1,634
November	6,437	2,050	1,166	1,643
December	7,142	2,055	1,173	1,653
January	6,097	2,065	1,179	1,662
February	6,285	2,069	1,185	1,671
March	6,803	2,068	1,190	1,679
April	6,116	2,075	1,195	1,685
May	7,352	2,081	1,201	1,695
June	7,422	2,089	1,207	1,704
1956-57—				
July	6,743	2,095	1,213	1,714
August	6,716	2,101	1,220	1,724
September	6,455	2,099	1,226	1,734
October	8,110	2,108	1,233	1,743

(a) Actual collections.
of one are included.

(b) During the period July, 1942, to December, 1951, supplementary licences for receivers in excess

For meaning of symbol —, see page 1.

PRIVATE TRADING BANKS.(a)
LIABILITIES AND ASSETS WITHIN AUSTRALIA.
 (£ million.)

Period.		Deposits.(b)			Advances.	Government and Municipal Securities. (c)	Special Accounts with Commonwealth Bank.	Coin, Bullion, Notes and Cash with Commonwealth Bank.	Treasury Bills.
		Bearing Interest.	Not Bearing Interest.	Total.					
Average of Weekly Figures—									
1936-37..	..	184.7	112.9	297.6	262.5	15.0	..	34.2	24.5
1937-38..	..	194.8	120.0	314.8	274.4	21.4	..	37.1	20.7
1938-39..	..	198.8	118.9	317.7	288.1	20.5	..	33.6	21.5
1949-50..	..	224.5	685.6	910.1	(d) 403.9	83.8	377.0	52.0	26.5
1950-51..	..	247.7	896.5	1,144.2	479.3	90.2	500.3	59.3	36.9
1951-52..	..	238.2	963.5	1,201.7	621.4	68.4	466.0	60.6	32.4
1952-53..	..	218.7	943.7	1,162.4	638.1	86.5	211.7	74.7	123.1
1953-54..	..	239.8	1,035.7	1,275.5	658.5	130.3	285.2	71.2	99.4
1954-55 (e)	..	263.0	1,047.7	1,310.7	776.8	121.9	269.1	66.9	51.6
1955-56..	..	263.1	1,032.3	1,295.4	804.4	114.0	238.8	66.9	50.0
1954-55—									
October	..	264.3	1,021.6	1,285.9	780.1	116.1	272.3	65.0	35.4
November	..	264.1	1,035.2	1,299.3	786.2	114.8	269.1	67.7	41.1
December (f)	..	261.1	1,056.6	1,317.7	785.7	114.3	259.6	69.7	47.1
January	..	264.9	1,069.9	1,334.8	769.8	116.4	259.6	83.7	74.7
February	..	267.2	1,089.0	1,356.2	772.9	124.6	259.6	71.7	96.5
March (e)	..	267.2	1,097.1	1,364.3	775.9	132.5	259.6	65.8	95.5
April ..	..	262.6	1,082.7	1,345.3	795.8	130.4	259.6	59.2	65.9
May ..	..	268.8	1,059.9	1,328.7	811.4	126.0	259.6	59.6	48.6
June ..	..	267.2	1,040.0	1,307.2	817.7	124.6	245.8	65.4	27.8
1955-56—									
July ..	..	267.9	1,012.9	1,280.8	829.9	113.9	238.8	69.2	18.8
August	..	264.3	999.9	1,264.2	820.4	110.4	231.9	67.0	22.0
September	..	260.9	996.8	1,257.7	823.1	106.2	231.9	65.4	23.6
October	..	264.0	1,013.1	1,277.1	831.4	106.8	231.9	64.1	27.5
November	..	261.8	1,034.0	1,295.8	823.3	110.3	231.9	65.1	31.9
December (g)	..	259.3	1,062.2	1,321.5	814.5	110.4	231.9	71.4	45.0
January	..	261.3	1,070.5	1,331.8	784.2	113.4	231.9	76.4	92.8
February	..	259.7	1,072.2	1,331.9	773.7	117.2	247.4	66.9	111.6
March	..	259.4	1,075.0	1,334.4	776.2	119.0	263.9	65.7	91.6
April ..	..	262.8	1,058.7	1,321.5	786.8	119.0	257.3	60.5	62.1
May ..	..	265.9	1,011.9	1,277.8	798.4	119.0	238.7	66.8	41.5
June ..	..	269.2	991.2	1,260.4	793.9	120.9	227.7	65.7	28.9
1956-57—									
July ..	..	275.5	967.9	1,243.4	797.7	115.5	223.4	64.9	29.6
August	..	278.6	955.8	1,234.4	787.0	116.3	223.4	68.5	28.9
September	..	284.1	964.4	1,248.5	778.5	119.9	223.4	71.4	37.4
October	..	287.6	993.9	1,281.5	780.2	124.6	225.9	64.3	51.9

(a) Previously Nine Trading Banks. Now includes Australia and New Zealand Bank Ltd., The Bank of Adelaide, The Bank of New South Wales, The Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd., The Commercial Banking Company of Sydney Ltd., The English, Scottish and Australian Bank Ltd., The National Bank of Australasia Ltd., The Queensland National Bank Ltd. (in vol. liq.) and from March, 1955, The Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. (in vol. liq.). Averages of liabilities and assets on Mondays in period until December, 1946; thereafter averages of liabilities and assets on Wednesdays. (b) Excludes inscribed stock. (c) Excludes Treasury Bills. (d) Figures are not strictly comparable with earlier periods owing to changes in classification of some minor assets and liabilities. (e) The Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. (in vol. liq.) included from March, 1955. (f) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fifth Wednesday. (g) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fourth Wednesday.

For meaning of symbols .., —, see page 1.

PRIVATE TRADING BANKS(a)—continued.

RATIOS OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES TO TOTAL DEPOSITS (b) WITHIN AUSTRALIA.

(Per Cent.)

Period.			Percentages of Various Categories of Assets to Total Deposits.					Percentage Non-interest bearing to Total Deposits.
			Cash in Australia.	Cash + Treasury Bills.	Advances.	Advances + Government and Municipal Securities in Australia.(c)	Special Accounts with Commonwealth Bank.	
Average	of	Weekly						
Figures—								
1936-37	11.49	19.73	88.20	93.26	..	37.93
1937-38	11.79	18.37	87.15	93.95	..	38.13
1938-39	10.58	17.36	90.70	97.15	..	37.42
1949-50	5.71	8.62	(d)44.35	(d)53.55	41.40	75.28
1950-51	5.19	8.41	41.89	49.69	43.73	78.35
1951-52	5.04	7.74	51.71	57.40	38.78	80.18
1952-53	6.43	17.02	54.89	62.33	18.21	81.19
1953-54	5.59	13.38	51.63	61.85	22.36	81.20
1954-55 (e)	5.10	9.04	59.26	68.56	20.53	79.93
1955-56	5.16	9.02	62.09	70.89	16.99	79.69
1954-55—								
October	5.06	7.81	60.66	69.68	21.18	79.45
November	5.21	8.37	60.51	69.34	20.71	79.67
December (f)	5.29	8.86	59.63	68.30	19.70	80.18
January	6.28	11.88	57.67	66.40	19.45	80.15
February	5.29	12.41	56.99	66.18	19.14	80.30
March (e)	4.82	11.82	56.87	66.59	19.03	80.42
April	4.40	9.30	59.15	68.84	19.30	80.48
May	4.49	8.15	61.07	70.56	19.54	79.77
June	5.01	7.14	62.55	72.08	18.80	79.56
1955-56—								
July	5.41	6.87	64.80	73.69	18.65	79.08
August	5.30	7.04	64.89	73.62	18.34	79.09
September	5.20	7.07	65.45	73.89	18.44	79.26
October	5.02	7.17	65.10	73.47	18.16	79.33
November	5.03	7.49	63.53	72.05	17.90	79.79
December (g)	5.40	8.81	61.63	69.98	17.55	80.38
January	5.74	12.71	58.89	67.40	17.41	80.38
February	5.02	13.40	58.09	66.89	18.58	80.50
March	4.92	11.79	58.17	67.09	19.78	80.56
April	4.58	9.58	59.53	68.54	19.47	80.12
May	5.23	8.47	62.48	71.79	18.68	79.19
June..	5.21	7.50	62.98	72.57	18.06	78.64
1956-57—								
July	5.22	7.60	64.16	73.45	17.97	77.84
August	5.55	7.89	63.76	73.18	18.10	77.43
September	5.72	8.72	62.36	71.96	17.89	77.24
October	5.02	9.07	60.88	70.60	17.63	77.55

(a) See footnote (a) on previous page.

(b) Deposits exclude inscribed deposit stock.

(c) Excludes Treasury Bills.

(d) Figures are not strictly comparable with earlier periods owing to changes in classification of some minor assets and liabilities.

(e) The Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. (in vol. liq.) included from March, 1955.

(f) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fourth Wednesday.

(g) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fourth Wednesday.

For meaning of symbols .., —, see page 1.

COMMONWEALTH TRADING BANK OF AUSTRALIA(a),
and
COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA
(RURAL CREDITS, MORTGAGE BANK AND INDUSTRIAL FINANCE DEPARTMENTS).
(£ million.)

Period.	Commonwealth Trading Bank.(a)(b)								Commonwealth Bank—Advances.(b)			
	Deposits.			Ad- vances.	Special Account with Common- wealth Bank. (c)	Coin Bullion, Notes and Cash with Common- wealth Bank.	Treasury Bills.	Other Australian Govern- ment and Municipal Securities.	Rural Credits Depart- ment.	Mortgage Bank Depart- ment.	Industrial Finance Department.	
	Bearing Interest.	Not Bearing Interest.	Total.								Hire Purchase.	Other.
Average of Weekly Figures—												
1949-50 ..	14.8	62.5	77.3	45.3	..	6.2	2.0	35.4	13.8	3.5	12.8	6.3
1950-51 ..	19.4	89.2	108.6	62.5	..	7.2	24.0	26.9	13.7	3.8	14.7	7.6
1951-52 ..	20.1	90.6	110.7	76.4	..	6.6	26.4	13.3	19.7	4.1	15.5	8.7
1952-53 ..	22.8	96.7	119.5	(d)59.5	21.7	8.8	(c)17.2	(d)25.8	44.9	4.3	14.8	8.1
1953-54 ..	35.3	120.9	156.2	69.2	34.8	11.0	23.4	29.9	43.2	4.5	16.6	4.7
1954-55 ..	43.6	130.9	174.5	89.1	36.1	10.5	12.3	38.2	62.3	4.8	17.0	6.7
1955-56 ..	46.3	135.6	181.9	103.9	33.2	10.2	6.3	38.6	73.8	5.1	16.6	9.0
1954-55—												
October ..	44.6	128.1	172.7	84.2	37.3	10.4	11.9	39.9	48.3	4.7	17.2	6.3
November ..	44.1	132.1	176.2	86.5	36.7	9.8	14.3	40.1	45.6	4.8	17.3	6.4
December ..	43.8	133.6	177.4	87.4	35.0	10.6	16.3	38.2	41.4	4.8	17.5	6.3
January ..	42.9	127.3	170.2	89.7	35.0	11.6	10.7	36.3	53.6	4.8	17.4	6.2
February ..	42.5	129.5	172.0	90.0	35.0	10.3	12.7	37.7	76.9	4.9	17.1	6.3
March ..	44.2	136.2	180.4	90.9	35.0	11.4	15.3	39.3	85.9	5.0	16.9	6.5
April ..	45.5	136.4	181.9	94.0	35.0	9.2	14.6	39.6	81.7	5.0	16.7	7.4
May ..	45.5	135.9	181.4	97.8	35.0	10.0	12.0	39.6	74.4	5.0	16.7	8.2
June ..	46.2	134.9	181.1	98.5	33.8	12.0	8.9	39.7	64.2	4.9	16.8	8.3
1955-56—												
July ..	48.1	131.3	179.4	103.1	33.2	10.2	5.0	40.0	57.1	5.1	16.8	8.4
August ..	48.6	131.2	179.8	105.4	32.7	9.5	5.7	39.2	50.2	5.1	16.9	8.7
September ..	48.9	131.9	180.8	106.0	32.7	10.4	4.1	40.0	50.4	5.1	16.9	8.8
October ..	48.6	136.5	185.1	105.0	32.7	10.8	8.5	40.0	52.0	5.1	17.0	8.9
November ..	48.4	139.6	188.0	105.0	32.7	10.1	10.5	40.0	46.7	5.1	17.2	9.1
December ..	47.0	140.4	187.4	104.8	32.7	10.9	8.0	40.0	50.4	5.1	17.3	9.4
January ..	47.5	132.5	180.0	105.9	32.7	10.6	2.8	40.1	66.2	5.1	17.0	9.1
February ..	46.7	132.9	179.6	104.8	33.6	9.8	4.2	40.1	98.8	5.0	16.5	9.1
March ..	45.5	135.9	181.4	102.7	35.7	10.1	6.0	36.8	113.5	5.1	16.0	9.1
April ..	40.9	141.9	182.8	101.3	34.8	10.7	7.6	35.7	109.5	5.1	16.8	9.2
May ..	42.0	138.2	180.2	101.0	32.9	9.8	8.2	35.7	98.1	5.1	15.8	9.3
June ..	42.7	136.4	179.1	101.9	31.9	10.2	5.0	35.7	86.6	5.0	15.7	9.4
1956-57—												
July ..	42.7	132.7	175.4	105.3	31.2	8.9	2.0	35.7	76.9	5.1	15.7	9.2
August ..	43.3	135.8	179.1	106.0	31.2	9.3	4.0	36.3	64.8	5.1	15.8	9.3
September ..	43.1	135.8	178.9	106.2	31.2	9.6	4.0	37.2	56.6	5.1	16.3	9.3
October ..	43.1	138.8	181.9	108.2	31.7	9.9	2.8	36.5	51.4	5.1	16.7	9.4

(a) General Banking Division of Commonwealth Bank prior to 3rd December, 1953. (b) Averages of liabilities and assets on Wednesdays.
(c) At the beginning of July, 1952, the General Banking Division opened, in the books of the Central Bank, a special deposit account with a balance approximating the amount that would be required if it were subject to Special Account provisions of the Banking Act 1945. This represents a change in the form of liquid assets which were previously held, predominantly in Treasury Bills. (d) Between March and July, 1952, certain loans to building societies and *crédit foncier* loans for housing were transferred from the General Banking Division to the Commonwealth Savings Bank in exchange for Government Securities. The reduction in these loans (held by the General Banking Division) over this period was approximately £24,000,000.
(e) Returns for fifth Wednesday not available. (f) Returns for fourth Wednesday not available.

For meaning of symbols .., —, see page 1.

COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA : CENTRAL BANKING BUSINESS.

(Including Note Issue Department.)

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS.(a)

(£A million.)

Period.	Notes on Issue.			Special Accounts of Trading Banks.	Other Deposits of Trading Banks.	Other Liabilities (excluding Capital and Reserves).	Gold and Balances held Abroad.	Government and other Securities (including Treasury Bills).
	Held by Banks.	Held by Public.	Total.					
Average of Weekly Figures—								
1949-50.. ..	27.9	194.3	222.2	379.6	30.7	200.3	434.0	349.0
1950-51.. ..	32.7	219.1	251.8	503.2	34.7	238.2	596.3	366.6
1951-52.. ..	38.1	255.5	293.6	468.8	31.1	270.9	470.6	503.1
1952-53.. ..	36.9	281.3	318.2	212.9	45.4	287.4	363.6	434.8
1953-54.. ..	38.5	299.7	338.2	(b)306.8	41.7	283.4	512.6	408.0
1954-55.. ..	40.9	316.1	357.0	306.3	36.8	243.5	415.9	459.8
1955-56.. ..	43.0	331.1	374.1	272.8	35.6	208.7	298.9	515.7
1954-55—								
October	39.4	312.4	351.8	310.7	36.2	250.1	426.4	470.9
November	39.4	313.7	353.1	306.9	38.4	249.5	424.9	472.2
December (c) ..	44.5	322.9	367.4	295.7	36.3	235.7	417.7	471.1
January	46.6	317.0	363.6	295.7	49.2	241.4	414.9	475.0
February	40.9	314.3	355.2	295.7	40.8	246.7	406.8	446.2
March	40.4	317.6	358.0	295.7	36.8	244.3	403.5	438.4
April	42.5	324.3	366.8	295.7	26.2	231.9	382.2	446.7
May	41.3	320.8	362.1	295.6	28.7	234.7	375.8	462.7
June	40.6	322.5	363.1	280.7	37.1	234.5	374.2	470.1
1955-56—								
July	40.1	323.8	363.9	273.1	40.5	217.1	360.2	471.1
August	40.1	325.9	366.0	265.4	36.7	216.0	343.8	486.8
September	40.2	328.1	368.3	265.4	36.1	205.9	321.6	502.0
October	40.7	329.6	370.3	265.4	34.4	210.5	303.3	525.4
November	41.4	331.4	372.8	265.4	34.8	208.7	301.0	535.3
December (d) ..	48.3	343.5	391.8	265.4	36.5	205.2	297.6	552.8
January	47.4	333.5	380.9	265.4	40.6	207.3	298.1	534.0
February	42.8	330.6	373.4	281.9	33.5	211.4	293.2	511.0
March	41.5	335.9	377.4	300.4	36.0	211.0	274.0	540.6
April	45.9	336.2	382.1	292.9	27.8	200.8	258.4	530.5
May	45.1	329.7	374.8	272.4	34.4	204.3	263.4	509.6
June	43.9	330.4	374.3	260.4	37.2	204.1	270.2	503.9
1956-57—								
July	43.1	330.7	373.8	255.4	33.5	202.2	282.4	497.2
August	42.8	333.8	376.6	255.4	38.4	201.7	292.0	513.8
September	42.7	337.1	379.8	255.4	40.7	203.9	286.7	538.2
October	43.7	337.4	381.1	258.4	31.8	206.2	285.9	546.5

(a) Averages of liabilities and assets on Wednesdays in period. (b) From 3rd December, 1953, includes Special Account of Commonwealth Trading Bank. Previously the Special Deposit Account of the General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank was included in "Other Liabilities". (c) Return for fifth Wednesday not available. (d) Return for fourth Wednesday not available.

For meaning of symbol —, see page 1.

ALL CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS.(a)

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS WITHIN AUSTRALIA.(b)

(£ million.)

Period.	Deposits.			Advances.	Coin, Bullion, Notes and Cash with Common- wealth Bank.	Treasury Bills.	Other Australian Government and Municipal Securities.
	Bearing Interest.	Not Bearing Interest.	Total.				
Average of Weekly Figures—							
1949-50	249.3	771.2	1,020.5	495.4	62.2	29.5	132.3
1950-51	279.6	1,017.6	1,297.2	598.4	71.4	64.0	129.5
1951-52	271.7	1,091.5	1,363.2	759.7	72.3	61.7	96.6
1952-53	256.8	1,076.3	1,333.1	(c)762.3	(d)88.2	(d)144.2	(c)126.2
1953-54	290.4	1,196.0	1,486.4	793.7	87.3	130.1	174.2
1954-55	322.6	1,220.0	1,542.6	938.1	82.0	69.5	174.1
1955-56	325.7	1,207.7	1,533.4	984.1	81.1	60.5	167.0
1954-55—							
October	324.6	1,190.3	1,514.9	935.8	80.1	51.9	170.3
November	324.4	1,207.4	1,531.8	944.5	82.5	60.0	169.4
December (e)	321.1	1,229.9	1,551.0	946.3	84.8	67.3	166.7
January	324.2	1,239.7	1,563.9	931.8	100.9	90.4	166.7
February	326.1	1,262.6	1,588.7	935.6	86.9	116.4	176.2
March	327.6	1,276.0	1,603.6	940.0	81.0	118.5	185.3
April	324.0	1,260.9	1,584.9	963.9	72.0	86.7	183.5
May	330.2	1,236.5	1,566.7	983.6	74.1	65.5	179.2
June	329.8	1,214.9	1,544.7	990.8	81.8	40.7	177.8
1955-56—							
July	332.4	1,182.3	1,514.7	1,007.7	83.8	27.2	167.5
August	329.2	1,167.9	1,497.1	999.8	80.3	30.9	163.3
September	326.5	1,164.7	1,491.2	1,004.4	79.3	30.6	160.1
October	329.1	1,185.9	1,515.0	1,012.3	79.0	39.4	160.8
November	326.6	1,210.4	1,537.0	1,004.5	78.8	45.6	164.3
December (f)	322.6	1,240.8	1,563.4	995.2	86.5	56.4	165.0
January	325.1	1,243.8	1,568.9	966.3	91.5	98.9	168.3
February	322.9	1,248.9	1,571.8	954.4	81.2	120.8	172.1
March	321.0	1,254.7	1,575.7	954.6	79.9	104.4	170.7
April	319.7	1,244.2	1,563.9	964.7	75.0	76.1	169.6
May	324.1	1,192.0	1,516.1	976.2	80.6	54.5	169.6
June	328.4	1,167.7	1,496.1	972.4	79.6	37.4	171.5
1956-57—							
July	334.8	1,139.1	1,473.9	979.7	77.2	34.3	166.1
August	338.4	1,129.4	1,467.8	968.9	81.0	34.7	167.5
September	343.4	1,138.3	1,481.7	959.9	84.9	43.4	171.8
October	346.7	1,170.9	1,517.6	964.9	77.8	57.0	176.0

(a) Compiled from returns lodged under the Banking Act 1945-1953. Includes General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (Commonwealth Trading Bank from 3rd December, 1953), the General Bank Department of The Rural Bank of New South Wales, the General Banking Department of the State Bank of South Australia, and from July, 1946, the Rural Department of The Rural and Industries Bank of Western Australia. (b) See note (b), page 50. (c) See note (d), page 50. (d) See note (c), page 50. (e) Banks were exempted from furnishing return for fifth Wednesday. (f) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fourth Wednesday.

For meaning of symbol —, see page 1.

ALL CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS.

DEBITS TO CUSTOMERS' ACCOUNTS.(a)

(Excluding Debits to Australian Government Accounts at City Branches.)

(£ million.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australian Capital Territory.	Total.
Average of Weekly Figures—								
1949-50.. ..	104.9	97.8	29.5	19.3	13.7	5.6	0.3	271.1
1950-51.. ..	145.1	134.9	39.0	26.8	19.3	7.4	0.4	372.9
1951-52.. ..	156.6	142.3	41.5	30.8	21.8	8.9	0.5	402.4
1952-53.. ..	151.9	132.0	43.8	30.1	22.1	8.8	0.6	389.3
1953-54.. ..	171.7	154.9	51.0	32.8	25.4	9.9	0.8	446.5
1954-55(b) ..	187.5	176.2	53.9	36.3	26.2	10.7	0.8	491.6
1955-56.. ..	200.9	185.4	56.0	39.6	26.9	11.6	1.0	521.4
1954-55—								
October	190.3	178.0	56.3	35.5	26.8	10.0	0.7	497.6
November .. .	185.8	170.4	54.8	36.2	25.6	9.9	0.7	483.4
December .. .	194.5	184.4	55.6	37.5	27.1	11.0	0.9	511.0
January .. .	173.8	165.9	52.0	34.3	27.6	9.2	0.9	463.7
February .. .	188.3	188.8	53.3	37.1	26.3	10.1	0.8	504.7
March (b) .. .	186.0	187.1	50.3	38.5	27.1	12.0	0.9	501.9
April	185.5	174.6	51.4	36.1	25.6	10.7	0.9	484.8
May	203.3	191.7	56.5	39.3	28.2	12.1	1.0	532.1
June	206.0	182.3	56.6	38.5	25.0	12.6	0.9	521.9
1955-56—								
July	201.7	183.8	59.4	37.8	26.1	11.0	0.9	520.7
August	186.9	167.3	53.2	36.0	23.9	11.1	0.9	479.3
September .. .	193.7	169.3	56.7	36.3	25.5	10.8	1.0	493.3
October	202.9	183.8	57.0	37.6	25.9	11.0	1.0	519.2
November .. .	216.1	196.1	57.7	41.6	27.7	11.2	1.0	551.4
December .. .	214.1	205.2	59.6	42.6	28.8	11.8	1.0	563.1
January .. .	183.9	172.2	52.9	39.3	30.0	10.4	1.1	489.8
February .. .	187.1	184.0	50.9	39.8	27.8	10.9	1.0	501.5
March	199.7	191.1	54.5	41.4	26.8	12.2	1.2	526.9
April	201.2	190.2	52.0	38.4	27.0	12.6	1.0	522.4
May	218.0	199.2	58.3	43.1	28.2	13.5	1.1	561.4
June	203.8	181.0	60.9	40.4	25.4	12.7	1.1	525.3
1956-57—								
July	214.6	185.0	61.9	40.5	26.4	12.3	1.0	541.7
August	189.0	165.1	55.5	35.5	24.9	11.1	1.0	482.1
September .. .	201.0	183.5	59.3	39.9	29.3	12.0	1.1	526.1
October	221.8	192.3	63.3	42.0	29.2	12.4	1.2	562.2

(a) Compiled from returns lodged under the Banking Act 1945-1953. Averages of four or five weeks ended on last Wednesday. Includes in addition to the banks included in series on page 52, the Rural Credits, Mortgage Bank and Industrial Finance Departments of the Commonwealth Bank. (b) Debits to Customers' Accounts relating to the transfer of accounts from The Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. (in vol. liq.) to The National Bank of Australasia Ltd. have been excluded for March, 1955 and subsequent months.

For meaning of symbol —, see page 1.

SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS AND SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.

(£ million.)

At end of—	Amounts on Deposit in Savings Banks.									War Savings and Savings Certificates—Net Amount Outstanding.
	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Northern Territory.	Australian Capital Territory.	Australia.	
1936-37 ..	82.0	75.7	27.3	26.5	11.8	7.2	0.1	0.3	230.9	..
1937-38 ..	86.0	78.9	28.2	27.2	12.0	7.7	0.1	0.3	240.4	..
1938-39 ..	87.5	80.5	29.0	27.4	12.4	8.4	0.1	0.3	245.6	..
1949-50 ..	258.9	257.1	92.2	87.7	39.6	24.3	0.9	1.4	762.1	55.0
1950-51 ..	284.5	281.8	98.8	97.8	44.7	27.1	1.0	1.7	837.4	48.1
1951-52 ..	304.5	300.8	102.7	103.7	47.2	30.1	1.1	1.8	891.9	41.8
1952-53 ..	319.1	320.0	109.4	113.9	49.8	32.1	1.1	2.1	947.5	35.6
1953-54 ..	339.8	339.8	117.4	122.9	52.6	34.0	1.3	2.3	1,010.1	30.3
1954-55 ..	358.6	364.8	124.8	131.7	53.6	35.8	1.5	2.6	1,073.4	26.6
1955-56 ..	386.7	386.2	132.7	135.7	57.9	37.2	4.7		1,141.1	23.3
1954-55—										
October	346.7	348.4	122.2	126.4	53.3	34.8	1.3	2.5	1,035.6	28.9
November	347.2	350.0	122.9	126.5	53.3	34.7	1.4	2.5	1,038.5	28.7
December	347.8	350.9	123.4	126.5	52.9	34.7	1.4	2.5	1,040.1	28.3
January	350.2	353.2	123.4	127.5	53.1	34.8	1.3	2.5	1,046.0	28.0
February	350.7	354.0	122.6	128.2	52.7	35.0	1.4	2.5	1,047.1	27.7
March	350.9	354.5	122.2	128.5	52.5	35.1	1.4	2.5	1,047.6	27.5
April ..	352.5	356.7	122.5	129.0	52.7	35.4	1.4	2.5	1,052.7	27.2
May ..	351.4	357.3	122.1	128.9	52.5	35.4	1.4	2.5	1,051.5	26.9
June ..	358.6	364.8	124.8	131.7	53.6	35.8	1.5	2.6	^a 1,073.4	26.6
1955-56—										
July ..	360.4	366.9	126.3	132.6	54.2	36.2	1.5	2.6	1,080.7	26.3
August	358.9	367.3	126.7	132.5	54.3	36.7	1.6	2.7	1,080.7	26.0
September	359.5	368.9	126.5	132.9	54.6	36.7	1.6	2.7	1,083.4	25.7
October	362.3	370.1	127.6	133.6	54.9	36.8	1.5	2.7	1,089.5	25.4
November	361.8	371.1	127.7	132.9	54.7	36.5	1.5	2.7	1,088.9	25.2
December	364.1	371.4	128.1	132.8	54.4	36.4	1.5	2.7	1,091.4	24.9
January	367.3	371.5	127.9	132.7	54.7	36.3	4.3		1,094.7	24.6
February	371.2	373.5	128.2	132.9	55.0	36.6	4.3		1,101.7	24.4
March	374.4	375.3	129.1	133.1	55.4	36.5	4.4		1,108.2	24.2
April ..	375.7	375.7	128.9	132.9	55.8	36.7	4.5		1,110.2	23.9
May ..	376.7	376.9	128.8	132.3	56.2	36.6	4.6		1,112.1	23.6
June ..	386.7	386.2	132.7	135.7	57.9	37.2	4.7		^a 1,141.1	23.3
1956-57—										
July ..	390.3	388.3	134.1	136.7	58.6	37.6	4.7		1,150.3	23.1
August	394.7	392.7	135.9	137.2	59.6	38.3	4.8		1,163.2	22.8
September	399.7	396.3	137.9	137.7	60.5	38.5	4.8		1,175.4	22.5
October	403.2	399.0	139.4	138.2	61.0	38.5	4.9		1,184.2	22.1

(a) Interest added 1954-55, £20.6m.; 1955-56, £23.3m. The major part of this interest was added in June each year.

For meaning of symbol .., see page 1.

LIFE ASSURANCE BUSINESS.(a)

Period.	New Policies Issued.(b)				Premiums.(c)		Claims, &c., Paid.(d)		New Loans Granted. (e)
	Ordinary Department.		Industrial Department.		Ordinary Department.	Industrial Department.	Ordinary Department.	Industrial Department.	
	Number.	Sum Assured.	Number.	Sum Assured.					
		£'000.		£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.
Monthly Average—									
1937	12,296	4,120	36,148	1,684	1,045	474	747	223	n.a.
1938	11,470	3,867	32,757	1,530	1,075	617	781	246	n.a.
1939	11,293	3,886	32,125	1,545	1,144	541	835	303	n.a.
1949-50.. ..	20,538	12,243	24,999	2,509	2,877	1,003	1,224	512	2,778
1950-51.. ..	21,642	15,206	22,713	2,423	3,210	1,043	1,310	491	3,893
1951-52.. ..	23,607	18,464	23,216	2,817	3,651	1,102	1,441	546	3,963
1952-53.. ..	23,643	18,828	22,853	2,946	4,186	1,147	1,576	619	3,011
1953-54.. ..	23,709	21,177	19,964	2,714	4,680	1,173	1,763	672	2,872
1954-55.. ..	23,505	24,365	18,415	2,734	5,175	1,218	1,983	738	4,319
1955-56.. ..	24,796	27,936	17,551	2,721	5,785	1,228	2,263	793	4,744
Monthly Total—									
1954-55—									
September ..	30,787	31,146	29,567	4,312	5,137	1,327	2,120	724	3,627
October	22,427	20,953	17,126	2,485	4,617	1,210	1,969	744	4,440
November .. .	22,973	22,321	19,599	2,874	4,885	1,315	1,823	795	4,149
December .. .	31,474	37,228	16,406	2,661	5,592	1,489	2,320	638	4,806
January .. .	11,188	10,383	4,967	720	4,153	675	1,293	559	2,962
February .. .	16,358	15,828	17,464	2,541	4,498	1,181	1,764	736	3,731
March .. .	22,932	23,258	18,489	2,687	5,340	1,258	2,161	814	5,111
April .. .	19,535	20,123	17,156	2,688	4,750	1,162	1,849	666	4,875
May .. .	24,860	31,169	19,992	2,982	6,112	1,260	2,157	798	4,327
June .. .	27,002	29,666	20,225	3,119	6,749	1,359	2,182	795	6,861
1955-56—									
July	29,780	31,298	17,383	2,649	5,812	1,181	2,424	842	4,083
August .. .	28,314	30,682	21,003	3,316	5,702	1,182	2,322	864	5,217
September ..	35,366	36,605	22,065	3,476	6,072	1,272	2,415	814	5,191
October .. .	20,584	22,642	19,056	2,887	5,192	1,262	2,020	821	4,447
November .. .	25,697	26,896	18,249	2,846	5,352	1,284	2,177	784	6,011
December .. .	27,944	45,467	17,075	2,864	6,340	1,558	2,584	706	5,473
January .. .	13,527	14,085	3,568	507	4,786	641	1,619	595	3,518
February .. .	20,759	20,434	16,586	2,495	4,990	1,229	2,250	769	4,376
March .. .	24,048	24,706	19,946	3,059	5,440	1,296	2,196	840	5,044
April .. .	22,109	22,613	18,158	2,736	5,886	1,225	2,072	737	3,935
May .. .	24,309	30,806	18,499	2,870	6,686	1,280	2,484	884	4,292
June .. .	25,121	28,997	19,019	2,952	7,169	1,324	2,596	855	5,338
1956-57—									
July	24,612	31,567	20,260	3,211	6,846	1,203	2,674	912	5,796
August .. .	26,391	31,273	20,595	3,233	6,257	1,284	2,627	953	4,724
September ..	32,512	38,459	24,957	3,897	6,375	1,242	2,432	839	4,747

(a) Excludes business of the Government Insurance Office of New South Wales and the Queensland State Government Insurance Office which operate only in New South Wales and Queensland respectively. Monthly averages for the years 1937 to 1947 are based on annual returns for the financial years of the companies. From 1947-48 the figures have been compiled from monthly returns.

(b) Excludes annuity policies. (c) Includes consideration for annuities.

(d) Includes claims paid on death or maturity, payments made on surrender of policies, annuities and bonuses paid in cash.

(e) Excludes advances of premiums.

For meaning of symbols n.a., —, see page 1.

EXCHANGE RATES, GOLD PRICES AND SECURITY YIELDS.

Period.	Exchange Rates.(a)			Gold Prices.(a)		Commonwealth Government Securities taxed at Current Commonwealth Rates.		Private First Mortgages Registered in New South Wales.
	Australia on London.(b)	London on New York. (b)	Australia on New York. (c)	Australia.	London.	Short Dated 2 years.(d)	Long Dated 12 years.(d)	
	£A. per £100 Stg.	\$ per £Stg.	\$ per £A.	£A. per fine oz.	£Stg. per fine oz.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent. (e)
1936-37 ..	125.25	4.939	3.929	8.781	7.041	(f) 3.57	(g) 3.94	(h)5.3
1937-38 ..	125.25	4.980	3.961	8.690	7.001	(f) 3.30	(g) 3.71	(h)5.3
1938-39 ..	125.25	4.738	3.759	9.137	7.340	(f) 3.67	(g) 3.84	(i)5.5
1949-50 ..	125.25	3.074	2.445	14.443	11.557	1.95	3.13	4.4
1950-51 ..	125.25	2.800	2.228	15.492	12.400	1.99	3.21	4.4
1951-52 ..	125.25	2.796	2.224	15.492	12.400	2.05	3.95	4.4
1952-53 ..	125.25	2.804	2.231	15.492	12.400	3.03	4.54	4.7
1953-54 ..	125.25	2.813	2.238	15.514	12.411	3.10	4.44	4.9
1954-55 ..	125.25	2.797	2.226	15.625	12.536	3.49	4.50	5.2
1955-56 ..	125.25	2.795	2.228	15.625	12.496	4.39	4.76	5.7
1954-55—								(i) (j)
October ..	125.25	2.798	2.226	15.625	12.541	3.43	4.49	5.0
November ..	125.25	2.795	2.224	15.625	12.541	3.39	4.50	5.1
December ..	125.25	2.788	2.218	15.625	12.566	3.48	4.52	5.2
January ..	125.25	2.786	2.217	15.625	12.580	3.35	4.49	5.3
February ..	125.25	2.784	2.218	15.625	12.589	3.29	4.49	5.3
March ..	125.25	2.792	2.220	15.625	12.557	3.49	4.53	5.3
April ..	125.25	2.797	2.226	15.625	12.533	3.55	4.53	5.4
May ..	125.25	2.796	2.225	15.625	12.534	3.61	4.49	5.4
June ..	125.25	2.790	2.220	15.625	12.560	3.74	4.53	5.5
1955-56—								
July ..	125.25	2.785	2.217	15.625	12.583	3.91	4.53	5.5
August ..	125.25	2.787	2.218	15.625	12.569	4.08	4.51	5.5
September ..	125.25	2.786	2.217	15.625	12.556	4.23	4.51	5.5
October ..	125.25	2.739	2.222	15.625	12.528	3.96	4.53	5.6
November ..	125.25	2.802	2.230	15.625	12.477	4.07	4.52	5.6
December ..	125.25	2.803	2.230	15.625	12.478	4.19	4.53	5.7
January ..	125.25	2.807	2.234	15.625	12.465	4.13	4.54	5.8
February ..	125.25	2.807	2.233	15.625	12.466	4.26	4.57	5.8
March ..	125.25	2.805	2.233	15.625	12.472	4.68	5.12	5.9
April ..	125.25	2.808	2.234	15.625	12.460	4.97	5.18	5.9
May ..	125.25	2.808	2.234	15.625	12.461	5.02	5.19	6.0
June ..	125.25	2.802	2.230	15.625	12.437	5.13	5.34	6.1
1956-57—								
July ..	125.25	2.794	2.224	15.625	12.528	4.68	5.15	6.2
August ..	125.25	2.783	2.215	15.625	12.581	4.70	5.05	6.3
September ..	125.25	2.783	2.215	15.625	12.579	4.99	5.04	6.4
October ..	125.25	2.785	2.216	15.625	12.575	4.68	5.05	6.5

(a) Average of daily quotations. (b) Average of buying and selling rates for telegraphic transfers. (c) Selling rate. Direct quotation. (d) Rates for securities maturing in 2 and 12 years, estimated from rates on securities maturing in 0-5, and 10 or more years, respectively. Figures relate to last Wednesday in month. (e) Weighted average twelve months. (f) Under 5 years taxed at 1930 Commonwealth rates. (g) Ten years and over taxed at 1930 Commonwealth rates. (h) Urban securities only. (i) Rural and urban securities. (j) Average rate on mortgages registered in three months ending with month shown.

INTEREST RATES.

(Per Cent. per Annum.)

Date of Change in Rate.	Trading Banks—						Common-wealth Savings Bank Deposits (Maximum Rate).	Treasury Bills (Discount Rate).	Common-wealth Loans (Long Term).
	Fixed Deposits—				Overdrafts (Maximum Rate).				
	3 months.	6 months.	12 months.	24 months.	Common-wealth Trading Bank.(a)	Private Trading Banks.			
1940—24th January ..	1.75	2.25	2.50	2.75	4.25	(b)	2.00	1.75	3.875
1st March ..	1.75	2.25	2.50	2.75	4.25		2.00	1.75	3.625
28th May ..	1.50	2.00	2.25	2.50	4.25		2.00	1.50	3.250
1941—22nd Sept. ..	1.50	1.75	2.00	2.25	4.25	5.00	2.00	1.50	3.250
1942—14th March ..	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	4.25		2.00	1.50	3.250
1943—1st May ..	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	4.25		2.00	1.25	3.250
1944—17th January..	1.00	1.25	1.50	2.00	4.25	5.00	2.00	1.25	3.250
11th August ..	0.50	0.75	1.25	1.75	4.25	4.75	2.00	1.25	3.250
1945—1st March ..	0.50	0.75	1.25	1.75	4.25	4.75	2.00	1.00	3.250
1st December	0.50	0.75	1.00	(c)1.50	4.25	4.75	2.00	1.00	3.250
1946—20th November	0.50	0.75	1.00	(c)1.50	4.25	4.75	2.00	1.00	3.125
1947—1st January ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	(c)1.50	4.25	4.50	2.00	1.00	3.125
1949—1st May ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	(c)1.50	4.25	4.50	2.00	0.75	3.125
1951—21st August ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	(c)1.50	4.25	4.50	2.00	0.75	3.750
1952—29th July ..	1.00	1.25	1.50	(d)1.75	4.75	5.00	2.25	1.00	3.750
25th November	1.00	1.25	1.50	(d)1.75	4.75	5.00	2.25	1.00	4.500
1955—1st January ..	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	4.75	5.00	2.50	1.00	4.500
1956—15th March ..	2.25	2.50	2.75	3.00	4.75	5.00	2.50	1.00	4.500
1st April ..	2.25	2.50	2.75	3.00	(e) 6.00	(e) 6.00	2.75	1.00	4.500
10th May ..	2.25	2.50	2.75	3.00	(e) 6.00	(e) 6.00	2.75	1.00	5.000

(a) Prior to 3rd December, 1953, General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank. (b) Rates for Private Trading Banks not published, but predominant rates between 1936 and 1940 were 5.25 per cent. to 5.50 per cent. On 1st July, 1940, rates in excess of 5.25 per cent. were reduced by 0.25 per cent. and on 1st January, 1942, there was a further reduction of 0.125 per cent. (c) 1 per cent. on amounts in excess of £10,000. (d) 1.50 per cent. on amounts in excess of £10,000. (e) Average rate on all advances not to exceed 5½ per cent.

COMMONWEALTH AND STATES: SHORT-TERM DEBT REDEEMABLE IN AUSTRALIA.(a)

(£'000.)

Date.	Common-wealth.	States.	Total.	Date.	Common-wealth.	States.	Total.
30th June—				1954-55—			
1937 ..	..	46,408	46,408	30th June ..	160,000	..	160,000
1938 ..	..	46,598	46,598				
1939 ..	..	50,228	50,228	1955-56—			
1949 ..	123,280	..	123,280	31st July ..	150,000	..	150,000
1950 ..	108,280	..	108,280	31st August ..	155,000	..	155,000
1951 ..	108,280	2,400	110,680	30th Sept. ..	180,000	2,400	182,400
1952 ..	153,280	..	153,280	31st Oct. ..	195,000	2,900	197,900
1953 ..	225,000	..	225,000	30th Nov. ..	210,000	5,900	215,900
1954 ..	190,000	..	190,000	31st Dec. ..	255,000	7,400	262,400
1955 ..	160,000	..	160,000	31st Jan. ..	255,000	7,400	262,400
1956 ..	165,000	..	165,000	29th Feb. ..	265,000	7,400	272,400
1954-55—				31st Mar. ..	280,000	6,400	286,400
30th Nov. ..	195,000	..	195,000	30th April ..	220,000	5,900	225,900
31st Dec. ..	215,000	..	215,000	31st May ..	180,000	3,900	183,900
31st Jan. ..	230,000	..	230,000	30th June ..	165,000	..	165,000
28th Feb. ..	225,000	..	225,000	1956-57—			
31st March ..	220,000	..	220,000	31st July ..	155,000	2,250	157,250
30th April ..	210,000	..	210,000	31st August ..	190,000	3,000	193,000
31st May ..	165,000	..	165,000	30th Sept. ..	210,000	3,000	213,000
				31st Oct. ..	240,000	3,000	243,000

(a) Excludes overdrafts and Internal Treasury Bills.
For meaning of symbol .., see page 1.

COMMONWEALTH AND STATE FINANCE.(a)

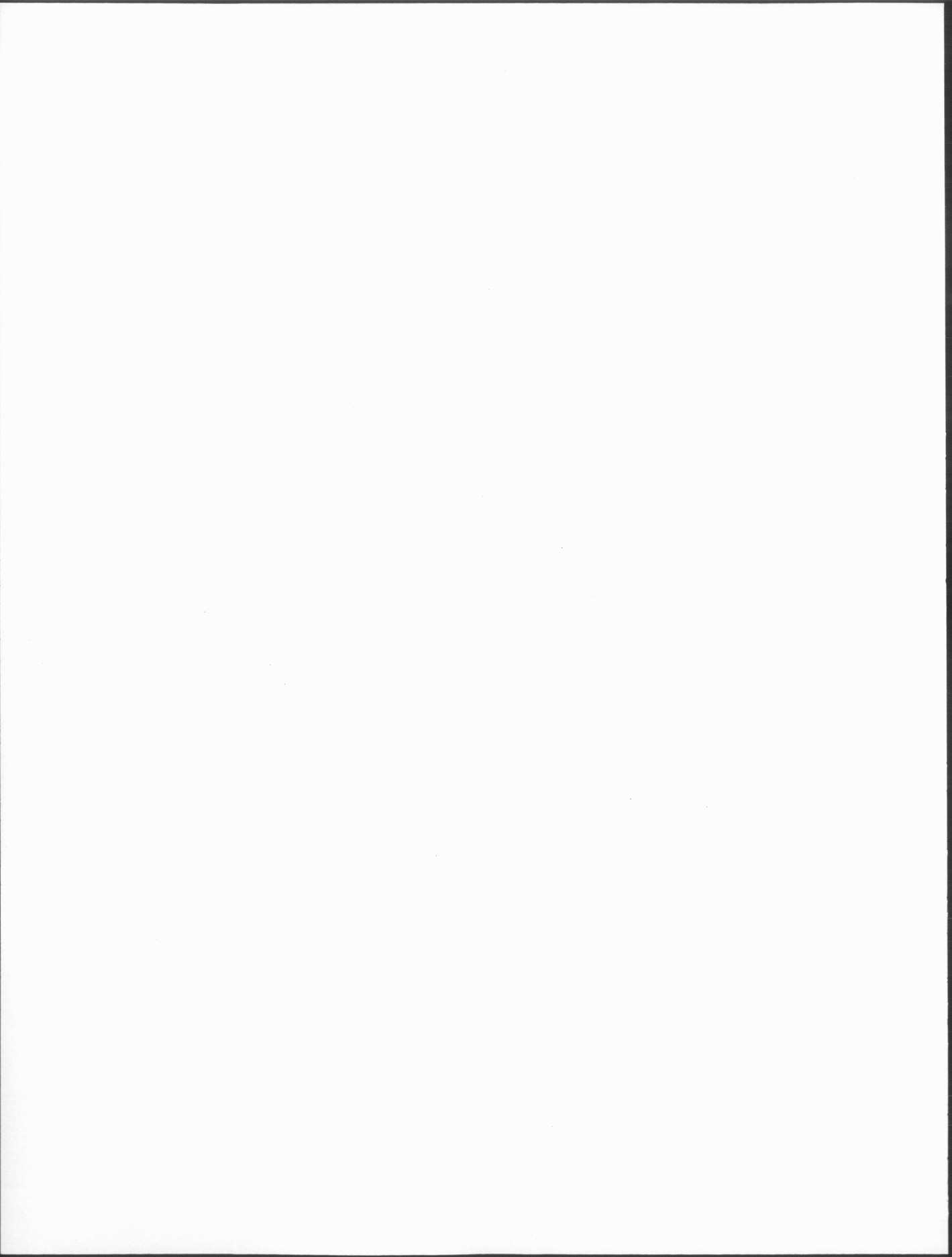
(£ million.)

Period.	New South Wales.(b)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Six States.	Commonwealth.	Grand Total.(a)
REVENUE.									
1936-37	49.2	27.2	16.5	11.7	10.2	3.5	118.3	82.8	191.1
1937-38	53.6	27.6	17.3	12.5	10.8	3.6	125.4	89.5	204.8
1938-39	51.1	27.0	19.3	12.3	11.0	3.6	124.3	95.1	209.6
1950-51	128.3	63.5	44.7	31.1	29.0	7.8	304.4	841.8	1,032.0
1951-52	167.1	81.7	55.7	37.5	34.0	10.5	386.5	1,016.8	1,260.1
1952-53	180.9	97.0	63.2	44.2	38.7	12.1	436.1	1,040.1	1,310.7
1953-54	186.6	106.7	69.7	48.4	43.6	13.3	468.3	1,022.8	1,320.3
1954-55	193.0	116.8	73.8	48.7	46.1	14.5	492.9	1,067.4	1,384.8
1955-56	202.1	123.1	75.7	55.4	49.6	17.8	523.7	1,138.4	pl,473.3
1956-57 (Estimate) ..	219.9	133.3	84.8	60.9		19.1		1,235.1	
1954-55—									
July—August ..	28.9	14.9	11.0	6.7	7.0	1.6	70.1	146.9	192.7
—September..	43.9	23.1	17.3	9.9	10.6	2.9	107.7	209.4	280.9
—October ..	58.6	31.3	23.0	13.4	13.9	3.7	143.9	272.2	368.1
1955-56—									
July—August ..	30.3	16.0	10.9	7.3	7.1	1.9	73.5	142.4	190.5
—September..	45.4	24.4	17.4	11.0	10.7	3.5	112.4	208.9	283.0
—October ..	60.9	32.8	23.3	14.4	14.4	4.6	150.4	280.0	379.4
1956-57—									
July—August ..	31.4	16.3	11.7	8.2	8.1	2.2	77.9	145.1	194.2
—September..	47.6	24.8	17.9	12.2	12.2	4.1	118.8	212.4	293.3
—October ..	65.7	35.0	25.1		16.5	5.3		287.7	
EXPENDITURE.									
1936-37	49.2	27.2	16.8	11.6	10.6	3.4	118.8	81.5	190.3
1937-38	53.5	27.6	17.6	12.4	10.8	3.6	125.5	86.0	201.4
1938-39	53.6	27.8	19.3	12.7	11.2	3.6	128.2	94.4	212.8
1950-51	128.3	63.9	44.6	30.8	28.8	8.1	304.5	841.8	1,032.0
1951-52	167.0	84.1	55.7	37.5	34.5	10.9	389.7	1,016.8	1,263.3
1952-53	180.8	97.4	63.0	44.2	39.2	11.8	436.4	1,026.7	1,297.6
1953-54	186.5	106.0	69.3	46.6	43.7	13.3	465.4	966.5	1,261.1
1954-55	195.2	115.5	73.6	50.9	46.6	14.7	496.5	997.3	1,318.2
1955-56	208.9	126.4	77.4	56.8	51.4	17.7	538.6	1,076.7	pl,426.5
1956-57 (Estimate) ..	219.8	135.8	84.8	61.8		20.1		1,126.4	
1954-55—									
July—August ..	27.0	16.1	11.3	7.5	7.3	1.7	70.9	130.4	177.0
—September..	43.0	25.2	17.2	11.9	11.0	3.4	111.7	209.7	285.2
—October ..	60.5	34.9	22.6	16.1	14.6	4.7	153.4	288.5	393.9
1955-56—									
July—August ..	28.5	18.1	12.3	8.9	8.0	2.2	78.0	151.4	204.0
—September..	45.9	28.0	18.0	13.4	12.3	3.9	121.5	245.0	328.3
—October ..	64.1	38.6	24.2	18.1	16.7	6.0	167.7	331.1	447.8
1956-57—									
July—August ..	32.0	18.9	13.9	9.5	9.6	2.5	86.4	179.2	236.8
—September..	49.4	29.6	20.2	14.1	14.0	4.3	131.6	262.8	351.4
—October ..	69.4	41.7	28.1		18.6	6.0		354.4	

(a) To avoid duplication in aggregating particulars for the Commonwealth and States, the grand totals exclude payments by the Commonwealth to the States for compensation in respect of uniform taxation, interest on States' debts, special grants and special financial assistance, also pay-roll tax payments by States to the Commonwealth. The totals of revenue and expenditure of the States have also been adjusted.

(b) Excludes Main Roads Department, Road Transport and Traffic Fund, and recoups of interest, &c., from undertakings outside the Budget. To obtain comparability between States, Commonwealth Hospital Benefits have been excluded from annual figures.

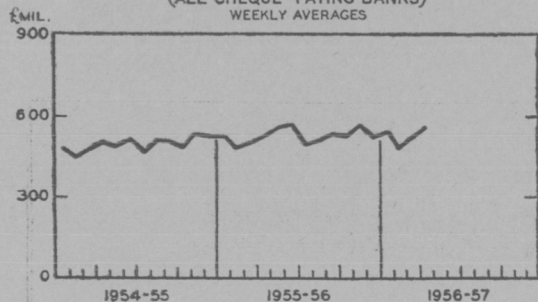
For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.



BANK DEBITS TO CUSTOMERS' ACCOUNTS

(ALL CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS)

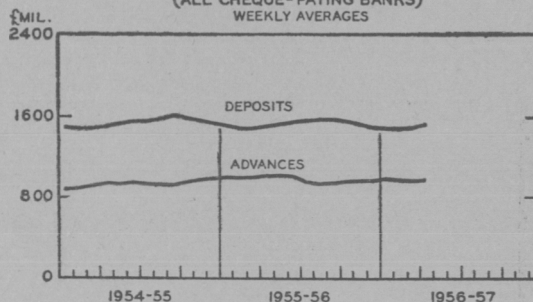
WEEKLY AVERAGES



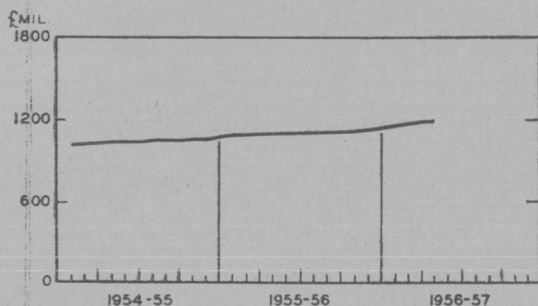
DEPOSITS AND ADVANCES

(ALL CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS)

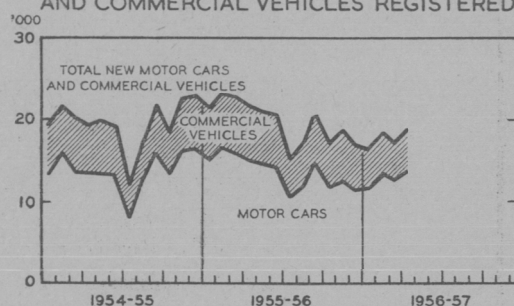
WEEKLY AVERAGES



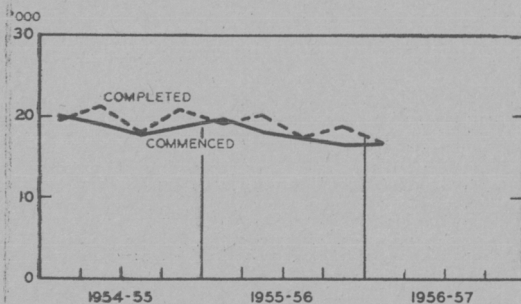
SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS



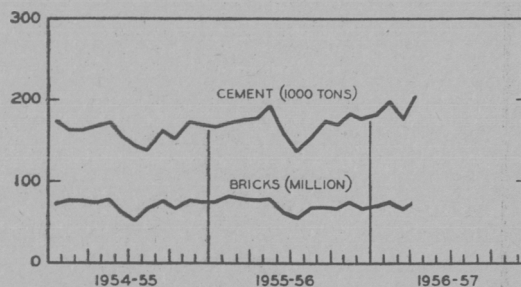
NEW MOTOR CARS AND COMMERCIAL VEHICLES REGISTERED



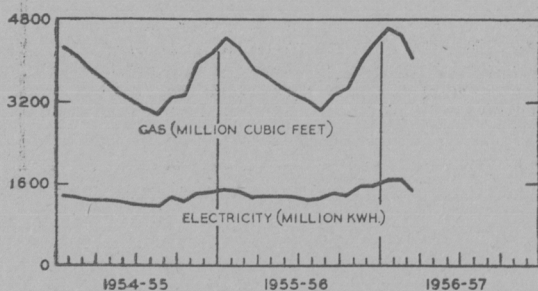
NEW HOUSES



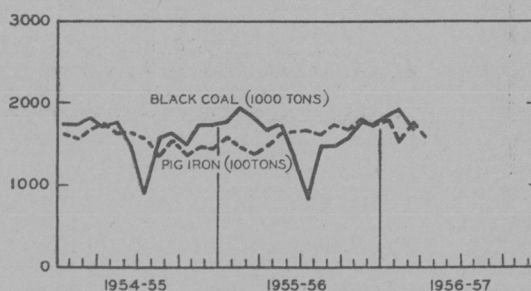
PRODUCTION OF BRICKS AND CEMENT



PRODUCTION OF GAS AND ELECTRICITY



PRODUCTION OF BLACK COAL AND PIG IRON



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- „ 7. Monthly Bulletin : Australian Banking Statistics No. 154 : October, 1956.
- „ 12. Statistical Bulletin : The Gold Mining Industry : September, 1956.
- „ 17. Building Statistics, No. 35 : September quarter, 1956.
- „ 19. The Australian Wheat Harvest : 1956-57 (Estimates).
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Vol. VIII., Part III.: Population and Occupied Dwellings in Localities.
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- „ 20. Monthly Bulletin : Production Statistics No. 97 : December, 1956.
- „ 21. Demographic Review No. 71 : Quarter and Nine Months ended September, 1956.
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- „ 27. Exports of Wool (Australian Produce) : Five months ended November, 1956.
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- „ 4. Monthly Bulletin : Australian Banking Statistics No. 135 : November, 1956.
- „ 7. New Capital Raisings by Companies in Australia : September quarter, 1956.
- „ 7. Hire Purchase Business of Finance Companies for Goods sold by Retail : October, 1956 (Preliminary).
- „ 8. Monthly Index of Export Prices : October, 1956.
- „ 8. Australian Oversea Trade : December, 1956 (Preliminary).
- „ 9. Statistical Bulletin : The Gold Mining Industry : October, 1956.

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